THE MESSENGER.

"AS THE TRUTH IS IN JESUS."

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THE MESSENGER.

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Poetry.

LENTEN HYMN.

When, wounded sore, the stricken soul
Lies bleeding and unbound,
One only hand, a pierced hand,
Can salve the sinner's wound.

When sorrow swells the laden breast,
And tears of anguish flow,
One only heart, a broken heart,
Can feel another's woe.

When penitence has wept in vain
Over some foul, dark spot,
One only stream, a stream of blood,
Can wash away the blot.

'Tis Jesus' blood that washes white,
His hand that brings relief,
His heart that's touched with all our joys,
And feels, too, for our grief.

Lift up Thy bleeding hand, O Lord;
Unseal that cleansing tide;
We have no shelter from our sin,
But in Thy wounded side.

—*C. F. Alexander*, 1858.

Communications.

For The Messenger.

CANDIDATES FOR THE MINISTRY.

We need more candidates for the ministry. From all our institutions of learning the complaint comes, there is a falling off in the number of candidates for the ministry. Vacant charges are calling for pastors, the Board of Missions are calling for missionaries, and there are not responses enough to satisfy the want. We are glad, for once, that the want is clearly felt. For some years the plea was that there were more ministers than charges, and that we did not need more candidates for the ministry. Especially was there developed opposition to the reception of beneficiary students. That opposition still continues in certain quarters. It is said that if a young man is really called to the ministry, he will work his own way to an education necessary for his work. Well, we are willing to let that view be tested, although we feel very sure that in the end it will be realized that it is still, and always will be, the duty of the Church to aid indigent young men into the ministry.

The question now is upon us, how shall we increase the number of candidates for the ministry? That is the question of the hour, not only in our Church, but in all the churches.

To secure the desired result there must be a co-operation of different agencies.

One of these is *the College*. One of the leading purposes for the establishment and support of our College is the education of young men for the ministry. The influence there exerted should tend to lead young men to dedicate themselves to the work of the Christian ministry. So far as our own colleges are concerned, we believe this influence is exerted. The education there carried forward, is in the full sense of a Christian character. Everything connected with them is calculated to turn the attention of the students to this great work.

And yet, the influences and agencies to reach this result must begin before the young men reach the college. The first agency is *the family*. There must be a consecration in the family, first of all. Parents must dedicate their children to the Lord, not only in the general sense, but with a special view to this purpose. Much depends on such consecration. If the subject is talked of in the family; if parents make the impression that their heart-felt desire is that one of their children may be called to the holy ministry, it will be felt among the children. A mother's prayers and instruction will go far in this direction A son, in this way, consecrated to the Lord, will carry with him in after years a mother's benediction. We should be taught to feel, as parents, that our children are given to us in trust, in order that they may be trained to labor for the Redeemer's kingdom.

Then pastors have a responsibility in the matter. And what better opportunity can be afforded than in the catechetical class? We shall never forget a final meeting we had with a catechetical class we confirmed years ago, when at the last meeting with them we laid this burden upon them, that in giving themselves to the Lord, they should ask the question, may I not perhaps be called to the holy ministry. One of the number, we know, felt the appeal as coming home to him, and he is now an active, worthy, minister of the gospel. He traces his call to the appeal then made by the pastor on this subject.

Here is the second agency that should be active in stirring up young men for the ministry. Yearly classes of young men are confirmed. Pastors are acquainted with their circumstances and condition. No class should be confirmed without the searching question, "May not some one of you be called to the holy ministry?" The matter should not be left there. If one says, I am willing to go, the pastor should follow his work by seeing that the purpose is carried out, and if the aid of the Church is required in his education, such aid should be forthcoming.

Such are some of the special agencies that are always at hand to seek out and find candidates for the holy ministry.

Then, in addition to these, we may refer to the general spirit of the Church. Let ministers preach on the subject. Let general spirit and tone in the churches indicate it. Whenever there is a felt want, the Lord will provide for it. But the want must be felt by the Church in order that it may be met.

Let us pray the Lord of the harvest that He may send forth laborers into the harvest It is a good sign of the work before us that we need more ministers. There is a harvest to be reaped. The Reformed Church has much land to go in and occupy. There is an open door. We need more ministers. Let parents talk and pray over the matter; let pastors speak of it in their catechetical classes; let our colleges urge it upon the young men in their halls, and, if the proper means be used, the Lord of the harvest will send forth laborers into the harvest. Just now we need such a call for ministers for the Reformed Church. There is an open door and we must enter in, else the Lord will call others to perform our work. A.

For the Messenger.

THE REFORMED CHURCH IN THE SOUTH.

Rev. G. W. Welker, D. D.

Is there any work for our Church in this part of our country? Will she attempt to repossess her lost territory? Will she fill up the distance that lies between the confines of the territory of the Classes of Virginia and North Carolina respectively? This may be considered a question of Christian duty or of ecclesiastical policy. In any view I hold that the Reformed Church must extend her borders by direct missionary work in the South or abandon the little territory she yet holds in North Carolina. We include not her Virginia possessions. This is locally connected with the entirety of the territory of the Church, and with it makes a *united* whole. But North Carolina is an oasis in the South, so far as relates to our Church. It is territorially an isolation. *As the case now stands it does not pay to hold it.* There should be enlarged possession and this effected by a local connection with the body of the organized territory of the Church. This little member is now a dislocated one. Indeed it has ever been so. We are not aware of any well directed plan to unite the members and unify the territory in this direction. The work of the Church to this end has all been done in other directions. In the South the hold of the Church is less than it was reported in 1824. Then in North and South Carolina, Kentucky, and Tennessee, the committee on missions returned 47 congregations, and more than half of these vacant. There are not so many now. North Carolina Classis reports 31 and of them several have only a name to live. It is true there is an increase in North Carolina in the number of congregations, but this does not show an extension of territory. It only shows a dense population in the original possession of the Church, and the need of more churches for the conversion of the people. Is there *vacant* territory that could be acquired by our Church and open to it in North Carolina, thus *extending* her territory? Yes! we say unhestitatingly, for there are many destitute communities. But it has ever been difficulty to supply the congregations existing with ministers Never has there been an adequate ministry for the churches in this state. To make conquest of territory, men and money will be needed, which are both wanting. In 1824 there were perhaps 22 organized congregations in North Carolina. In 59 years an increase of only 9, and these within the limits of the original Reformed settlements. It is clear that only at the cost of men, work and sacrifice, the Reformed Church can hold her own. There are now 12 Reformed ministers in North Carolina. Could not these do more effective work elsewhere, and soon and easily make up for any loss occasioned by the abandoment of this comparatively unproductive territory? A wise and prudent general in a war of conquest may see it to be advantageous to abandon a weak and isolated fort in order to take possession of and hold one that will command more territory and better than that abandoned, and with fewer men and less cost. To me it seems advisable to reinforce or abandon. It is cruel to subject the churches in North Carolina to live at this poor dying rate.

Much, however, on the other side may be said against the abandoment of the possession of the Reformed Church in North Carolina. The policy of the Church toward this section has been step-motherly in its character. But few men and little money have been devoted to its welfare. In the early days when men were sent in answer to tearful and persistent entreaties, it was often those defective in qualification or such as were ordained on condition that they would engage to be *Reisepredigers* for a time in North Carolina. Indeed there has been a reluctance on the part of ministers in the Reformed Church to come South. Other churches did not find it so difficult to find missionaries to the heathen, as the Reformed Church did for this work. Its claims were, however, felt and admitted. Most of those who did come, only remained a few years. They did not come to live, labor and die here as Paul (2 Cor. 7:3). They returned North, some for one and some for another reason. I do not set in judgment on these cases, but only to show how hardly it has been possible to save other churches and to preserve this possession from the fate of those in South Carolina, Kentucky and Tennessee. One weighty question returns—shall these churches, so few and weak,—so difficult of access,—so difficult to keep up after this long contest be abandoned? My can did opinion is, that this were better than to hold them as now. It is better for that mother to abandon the child she *cannot* nurture, perhaps some one may adopt and save it, than to hold to it and have it perish in her embrace.

Unless the Reformed Church is ready to put forth an effort to *extend* her territory and put heart and life into these isolated churches by sympathy and substantial aid, the policy of abandonment is best. This however, it seems to me, will involve the whole question, whether the Reformed Church now decrees to abandon all operation in the United States domain south of Virginia.—That she will renounce her name and rights here. Against this course I repeat, much can be said, and it is really a sad alternative. The Reformed Church is not an interloper in this region. Among those who subdued this wilderness were her children, and it is then right that she should insist on the maintenance of her possession or its recovery. To me it bears the belief that here lies an appointed work of God that cannot be neglected without want of fealty to the head of the Church, and that form of sound doctrine given her to propagate.

It were cruel to those faithful few who in darkest hour did not abandon the faith and customs of the Reformed Church. Who in the weak days of our mother, suffered and waited, but now in her better days, when her hands are extended in all other directions, hope that they too may share in her benefactions. Time and again openings have been set before them to find a home in other communions, but when the test was brought near, they clung fondly and lovingly to their first love. Shall such hearts be abandoned and left to die from want of affection and nurture, independent of the fact of this nucleus here? The recovering condition of the South, the opening to new forms of activity, the inviting openings to capital and labor that bring immigration, may attract members of the Reformed Church hither, and it will be well to hold this vantage ground and improve it. As already noted at the central points of business and enterprise all over the South Germans from the fatherland, are settling, and German brethren are organizing congregations. Soon the youth in these German communities will need a church where they can enjoy the means of grace after the manner of their own Church in the English language. This want *must* be met. *Then it will not be wise to abandon the South.* We trust that now that slavery is doomed of God—that the feeling and manner of living is undergoing great changes—that the South in many respects will be a new and better people; that it will afford an inviting field of work for the Church of Christ, in which our Reformed Church may share and have this ground left as a starting point, and her lost possession as an occasion to seek out and recover it.

I humbly submit that this is NOW THE problem for the Reformed Church in her home work. She must decide it now by deeds or by neglect. It is worthy the most earnest thought.

For The Messenger.

THE PEACE MOVEMENT.

We have not yet realized, as a Church, the rich blessings that are in store for us in the return of peace. We have contemplated this movement too much from a mere selfish point of view. We have been rejoicing over the fact that strife and contention have ceased within our borders, and that the work of our churches can now go forward in peace. All that is pleasant; but may there not be a selfish feeling in it that may lull us to sleep when we should be most wakeful in our work for Christ?

Let us assume that our controversies were not without some good. We cannot sympathize with those who imagine that our strife and contention were only evil. We are of those who believe that the struggles and dangers through which we passed as a Church were overruled for good. Those controversies brought with them a consciousness of our position and mission as a denomination of the Church of our Lord in this new world. We would not be what we are without them.

But, now that the smoke of battle has lifted, and sweet peace has returned to bless our land, what is required of us to testify our gratitude for the overruling Providence that has led us to peace and unity? Surely not a mere spirit of self-glorification, a rejoicing over what the Lord has done for us, without some practical results! If we have had to pass through severe contest in order to ascertain and find our mission among the Churches of the land, it is that we may now address ourselves to the work before us with heroic zeal.

We assume that the peace measure has accomplished its proper results. All sensible people in the Church rest in this conclusion. No one but a fanatic will dream or imagine that the return of peace requires that all shall think exactly alike. We would pity our Church if that were the case. But the differences and difficulties that threatened our denominational unity are at an end. We have reached the point where such differences have given way before our denominational church life. All feel that. Our different Classes and Synods all fall in freely in subordination to the principle of unity in the denomination.

But have we yet risen to the height of heroic endeavor that lies in a denomination so great as ours? We represent the historic Reformed Church of the 16th century. We are proud, as we may be, of our historic inheritance, coming down to us from the Reformation period, but have we fully realized the work which such an inheritance imposes upon us?

Look at the *Puritan Church* and its work in this new world! Fired with heroic zeal, what have they accomplished! We may criticise them and their work, for they are open to criticism. And yet have we Reformed accomplished in this new world what our rich inheritance has entitled us to?

Just now the door is open to us to go in and possess the land The Puritans were carried on the first wave that flowed over this new world; but now comes the second wave of European life that comes with the German emigration, and our Church is surely called to occupy the land.

Our German brethren see the open door and they come to establish churches in the great cities of the West. Who can complain of them, if they do so in the spirit of the fatherland! We sympathize with them, and we cannot join in the complaint, uttered in certain quarters, that they do not establish English churches. All praise to them if they gather the foreign emigration into Reformed churches, and thus save the *diaspora* from the fatherland for Christ.

But what are our English churches doing to establish our Reformed Church in the great West? Are we following the great Western emigration from the Eastern churches with anything like what we can do? Let us not complain of our German brethren for not establishing English churches until we do at least what they have done to save the German immigration to our Reformed Zion. Let us rather learn from our German brethren the lessons they have taught us in the great work they have accomplished, in establishing *three Synods*, and the appliances for church work they have called into exercise in their *Publishing House, Mission House*, and Synodical organizations.

The return of peace is an *established fact.* There is no possibility of lapsing into the old divisions. We are safely beyond that. If there are some old scores to be settled, let no one imagine that they will carry the Church back beyond the flood. We have crossed the red sea. But we have not yet accomplished what such a return of peace calls for. The opportunities are rapidly pressing upon us. The calls from the home and foreign field are making themselves heard. The Church is addressing itself to the work. But we have not yet returned a suitable thanksgiving for the good Providence that has led us through all our troubles and established us in peace.

That is yet to come. When our little personal bickering shall have ended, and all our selfish interest shall be swallowed up in the great work before us *as a Church*, the *jubilee* of active work will come, and all will rejoice together in the establishment of permanent peace and prosperity for our Reformed Zion. PAX.

President Eliot, of Harvard College, was not far wrong when, after having described the kind of training a theological student should receive, he said: "Having done all that the three years' training permits, and being admitted to the profession, his people must not require too much of him in the way of sermons, or pastoral calls, or extempore speaking, lest they exhaust his resources, and he become like those pumps seen at fairs, which draw all their water from a small box and discharge it into the same, only to be used over again."

"I learned that he that will be a hero will barely be a man; that he that will be but a doer of his work is sure of his manhood."

Family Reading.

"TWO CENTS A WEEK, AND A PRAYER."

"Two cents a week, and a prayer,"
A tiny gift may be,
But it helps to do a wonderful work
For our sisters across the sea.

"Two cents a week, and a prayer,"
From our abundant store,—
It was never missed, for its place was filled
By a Father's gift of more.

"Two cents a week, and a prayer;"
Perhaps 'twas a sacrifice;
But treasure came from the storehouse above,
Outweighing by far the price.

"Two cents a week, and a prayer;"
'Twas the prayer, perhaps, after all,
That the work has done and a blessing brought,
The gift was so very small.

"Two cents a week and a prayer,"
Freely and heartily given;
The treasures of earth will all melt away—
This is the treasure laid up in heaven.

"Two cents a week, and a prayer,"
A tiny gift may be,
But it helps to do such wonderful work
For our sisters across the sea!

—*Heathen Woman's Friend.*

"KNOTS" AND "NOTS."

By Archie Fell.

"There is really no perceptible improvement," said the doctor, leisurely drawing on his gloves. "What your mother needs, Miss Lida, is a change of scene—of climate, if might be. Not that I consider her case alarming at present, but it is well to forestall even possibilities. Insist upon plenty of nourishing food, and—let me see: April, May, June—by the first of June establish yourselves at the sea-side; the change is imperative," and the portly physician paced leisurely down the walk to his carriage, sublimely unconscious that he might just as well have prescribed a trip to the moon in Cinderella's coach and four.

The young girl whom he addressed quietly closed the door, and dropping upon the lowest stair buried her face in her hands; fair, slender hands—all that had barred the door of the little home against want and dreariness for many a month.

"Plenty of nourishing food." They could provide that, with simply a few hours more of labor. The plaques and vases, china and bric-a-brac, beautiful by their touch, were always in demand. With careful economy, table and wardrobe were kept comfortably supplied. The only extravagance in was a new book now and then, after some larger sale than usual. But board at the sea-side! The hands, with all their skill and cunning, could not provide for such expenditure, unaided. And whither could they turn? The long illness from which her mother was recovering had exhausted the little fund laid by for just such a rainy day. There was one friend, whose boyhood had in some way been brightened by the dear father, missed more to-day than when, two years ago, the apple-blossoms drifted over a new-made grave. This friend had written to them in their sorrow, gratefully, sympathetically, but in utter ignorance of the financial disaster which had preceded—mayhap, hastened—the sudden death. He was far away, and she could not—

"In the dumps, I do declare," cried a merry voice at her elbow—"Buried in a slough of despond to her very eyes—'Bonny, blithesome Lida Lee.' Is the sky falling, or what? The 'mother-mine' is not worse?' with a sudden sobering of a very rosy dimpled face.

The other sprang quickly to her feet, and leading the way into the sunny parlor said, with a forced smile:

"It's only that tiresome deliberate doctor; he must needs prescribe a gold mine when there's only sixpences to be had."

"Doesn't he know gold mines to be unhealthy? Don't they ruin more than they help? Sixpences are far better, taken in sufficient quantities," rejoined the new comer.

"They must be coined first. Show me the *modus operandi* and I am your debtor for life."

"Just as if those clever fingers of yours had not enough of the trick already. I shall tell the mother how mercenary we are growing."

Lida Breyton raised a warning finger to her lips as the invalid's feeble step was heard on the stairs, but when her friend took leave she walked with her to the gate and told her all the doctor had said.

"You poor child! How I wish I could help you!" exclaimed the impulsive visitor. "And I can—I really can; I was going to bring it over to-day. I thought you could try, just for fun, and now!—You see it's decided the middle of May—plenty of time—and yours is sure to be the best."

"I hope you know what you are talking about," remarked the other, a trifle impatiently.

"Oh, yes; two-prizes—fifty, and one hundred dollars—for the most exquisite original designs on satin—a panel, I believe; it's the Decorative Art Society; you shall have the paper, to-morrow; and you must see the Goodwins, they go to the seaside the first of June. The most delightful place, they say. They have been there five years, and will know all about everything. Think up your most exquisitest think, and the gold mine will be forthcoming."

"To be taken in both safe and sufficient quantities," laughed Lida, catching her friend's hopeful spirit.

Little sleep had she that night. In and out of woody tangles, meadow lights, spring-time glimmer and autumnal sheen, went her fancies, in search of daintiest device; something quaint, and charming, and utterly unlike any of the thousand and one dainty devices born of this æsthetic age. Of course her secret had to be shared with the invalid. It was she who must coolly criticise and pass judgment upon the pose of flowers, ferns, leaves and grasses, cob webbed, bedewed, wind-tossed, over which the feverish brain and patient fingers toiled both day and night.

Mrs. Goodwin called, as soon as she heard of the doctor's prescription from talkative Kitty Howes, and offered to render any assistance in their power; she knew of several quiet boarding-houses in the vicinity of their hotel, and the place itself was most delightful and salubrious. The only objection was the distance; but if they could arrange to travel with them Mr. Goodwin would attend to everything; he would write at once about rooms if they desired.

Lida declined, with thanks. "It would be impossible for them to decide before the middle of May." she said, with heightened color, and Mrs. Goodwin gracefully took her leave, well satisfied with her attempt to do a neighborly kindness. Was there any "other, left undone" in that a few days less of luxurious hotel life would have afforded weeks of restful pleasure and strengthening sea breezes to those two without the preliminary toil and anxiety paling the cheek of the younger? It certainly never occurred to the wealthy banker's wife that a few less yards of silk, or satin, or lace, in the elegant wardrobe to be displayed at that fashionable resort would have permitted an immediate acceptance of her really kind offer

And so, with not a little consuming of the midnight oil, and the fresh young life as well, the "venture" was sent on its way. We will not attempt a description; you may have seen it for yourself, among the scores of competitive efforts, good, bad, and indifferent, over which the bewildered committee "gazed, wondered, and" perspired.

How slowly the days passed, to the anxious hearts awaiting their verdict. To one, at least, it seemed as if life and death lay in the sentence.

"If it was simply for the glory—or for the mere money—I would not dare pray to succeed; but it must be right, it is my only hope, and if God is good He will surely give it to me," she said to herself, as night after night the one intense longing crowded out every other petition. In vain the tender mother warned, counseled, entreated, reproved.

The very last week in May two hearts somewhere in the wide world throbbed with pride and joy—while through dazed eyes our heroine read:

"Lida Breyton, honorable mention."

Poor Lida! What were "all the king's horses and all the king's men," beside her shattered hope! Alone in her room she paced to and fro, her eyes dry and burning, her heart full of bitter, angry thoughts. "God is *not* good! He will let my mother die! I did all I could; if it deserved 'honorable mention,' why not the prize! We need it so much, and it was such a little thing for Him to give. But He would not, He did not care."

Later, when the invalid's wasted hand was laid softly against her cheek, she broke down and cried passionately. When the storm was spent, and she had sobbed out the rebellious feelings in the loving ear which had listened so patiently to all her childish grief and passion, the wise mother-heart spoke softly:

"Lida, dear, do you remember when you were learning to sew? You would not have any knots made in the thread; you said it only pulled and puckered the work all into a bunch. So for a long time you sewed to no purpose—losing your needle, or coming to have it threaded every few moments. One day I insisted upon a knot and, despite your tears and protestations, guided your little hand over one seam after another till we had fashioned a tiny cape for your doll. How surprised and delighted you were! And how careful, ever after, to have the knots made. I think, dear, we have to learn that the 'nots' our heavenly Father makes in the thread of our daily lives will tangle and spoil, or beautify and benefit, as we, ourselves, make use of them. Can you not believe, my darling, that this will surely bring the greatest possible good, not to ourselves alone, but to all concerned? And you would not be selfish."

"How can I help it, when I love you so!"

"Trust the hand of infinite Love as you trusted mine in those early years."

And just those simple words helped the young girl, in the sleepless hours which followed, to fight her way, inch by inch, out of the "darkness of unbelief" into the old time gladness, which had

"Heart within, and God o'erhead!"

It was the first week in June. The Goodwins had shut up their house, and taken their five closely-packed Saratogas to the sea-side. One morning, the brightest, bluest, sunniest imaginable, Lida Breyton came back from a ramble in the woods, her arms full of pine boughs, her hands of spicy blossoms, and dancing into the sunny little parlor, exclaimed:

"The mountain shall come to Mahomet. See, mother-mine, we'll manufacture a climate ——"

She paused abruptly, at sight of a stranger sitting quite at his ease in the shabby old easy-chair.

"Pardon me, Miss Lida," he said, rising to meet her, "but your mother and I have just arranged to go to the 'mountain,' and you are to be forgiven for not taking me into your plans only on condition that you immediately fall in with mine."

"It is Mr. Roberts, your father's friend, Lida," said Mrs Breyton, tears and smiles struggling for precedence.

"A sorry friend you must have thought me; my wife is thoroughly indignant over the times I have come East and allowed business to hurry me back without looking you up," said the gentleman, resuming his seat. "If I had known how things were—or of your illness—. But, thanks to an over-ruling Providence, I am here at last, just in time to enforce the doctor's prescription. I chanced—no, I was led, to inquire my way of that individual, who very kindly offered to take me here. We agreed that a Californian climate would be the very best possible for our invalid, Miss Lida, and the only question is, How soon can you be ready?"

"Oh! if it could be! But, Mr. Roberts—" began Lida, excitedly.

"No 'buts,' if you please. It is sheer selfishness on my part, the whole arrangement. Our house is large, and we are dull sometimes—wife and I. You can make our home sunny, like this. We have no daughter, remember."

Those last few words, spoken as they were, forbade dissent, even if he had given them time, which he did not. Two days for leave-taking—could they make that do? He really ought not to stay any longer, and the sooner they were off the better it would be for the invalid, he said; taking matters into his own hands so quietly and efficiently that on the third day, without the least hurry or worry on their part, our friends found themselves the occupants of a luxurious drawing room car *en route* for the West.

"Only think, mother-mine," said Lida, the first time their friend left them to the quiet enjoyment of the latest periodicals. "What if there had been no 'not' in our plans, or mine, rather, and we had gone with the Goodwins! I will try never to doubt again."

"Poor little Didymus!" returned her mother, smiling. "You have seen and now you believe; but 'nots' will sometimes come the better to round and shape our inner life, while the tangible, outward good fills some other longing soul with gladness. Can you trust, then, and rest content? Remember the truly 'blessed' are 'they that have not seen,' and yet believe; believe that, because the Father's all-wise hand is guiding the thread, the completed pattern shall more than satisfy, seen in the light of eternity."—*Christian Union.*

OUR FATHER WHO SEETH IN SECRET.

God alone knows us thoroughly and His patient love alone can bear with us as we are. Our life is not more perpetually our own secret than it is in the possession of God. His eye pierces every corner of our heart. Every fibre of our being, intellectual, spiritual and moral, quivers in the intense light of His presence. He is our Lord, our Master, our Creator; He supports our existence as He originally called it into being; He is the efficient helper in all that we do, so that without Him we do not live, or move, or exist; He is our Judge, to whom are accountable for the use which we make, by our will, of every particle of being and moment of time, of thought and speech and desire and imagination and action. But yet our Lord does not call him Master or Creator, or Helper or Judge; but our Father who seeth in secret, as if without the consideration of His fathership we could not bear the truth of His all-penetrating insight. This our relation to God as His children is, moreover, the special work and gift to us of our Lord in His Incarnation, it is the relation in which we are most closely and perfectly one with our Lord Himself. It is the relationship also in which it is better that we should honor Him than in any other, it is that which makes our service to Him most surely a service of love, it is that which involves the truth of the certainty of His assistance to the efforts we make to serve Him, and to live in His presence, and which encourages in us the hope of the great reward which our Lord promises from our Father if we live for Him. For all these reasons it is well that in our practice of the presence of God we should aim especially at remembering Him as our Father.—*Father Coleridge.*

DON'T DECEIVE CHILDREN.

Nothing can be a greater mistake than to consider young people as destitute of understanding; their understanding should rather be appealed to and consulted. Do we not all remember how, when young, we were imposed upon? how our elders sought sometimes to put us off; how they gave us evasive answers or explanations; how they told us some plausible story as an excuse or as a reason? And do we not remember that even in our youth and simplicity we were quite capable of seeing through their manœuvers? Do we not all remember how, when any one endeavored to keep us in ignorance of some proceeding of which we were made accidentally cognizant, we could divine very correctly the real motive for sending us out of the way with some false excuse? Now, in a case of this kind, which comes within the pale of parental authority, the will of the parent alone ought to be sufficient to control the child. But there should be no stifling of truth and no relaxation of duty. If, as often will happen, it is not expedient or proper for children to know a particular fact or incident, they should be told so with frankness and kindness, but at the same time with firmness. We are apt to overlook the intelligence of these little people and address ourselves to their stature. We forget mind, which is invisible, in the presence of matter, which is seen. The treatment of children must always, for their own sakes, differ much from that of full-grown men and women; our manner of addressing them must also be different; but there does not seem to be any reason why we should not give them full credit for the amount of intelligence they do possess; and we may every day see children with more discrimination, greater good sense, and better regulated moral deportment than many whose tall figure or riper age has invested them with the consequence of men and women.—*Arthur's Home Magazine.*

RIGHT PRAYING.

Pray as those who always expect to be answered, and yet faint not if no answer seems to come. The sky is not brass, nor iron. Pray sometimes from the sudden sense of need overtaking and overwhelming you, with swift and short ejaculations, as you run, or teach, or toil, sending up the arrows that catch fire as they fly. Pray often after secret and ordered meditation, the preparation of self-scrutiny and the study of the promises. Pray out of deep waters, where your feet will often feel feebly after the Rock. Pray with a great deal of thanksgiving. Abound in intercessions—the special and highest fulfilling of the royal law. Intercede particularly, one by one, for those men or those women who seem to *hinder you, to tempt or thwart you,* to block your way with mysterious oppositions, and so at once purge your souls of every hateful feeling, and conquer at last the one adversary who, if he reigns within, reigns with absolute and fatal dominion.—*F. D. Huntington.*

THE TWO BOOKS.

A little sparrow twittered at my door,
And to my ear
The meaning clearer came than e'er before,
And brought me cheer:

"Not one of us without our Father's care
Falls to the earth;
Why doubt His fonder care for you, who are
Of far more worth?"

A soaring eagle in his lofty flight
Gave me a thought,
Which to my weak and falt'ring soul a bright,
Fresh courage brought;

"Know ye not, they that wait upon the Lord
Strength shall renew?
Shall mount on wings as eagles? This His Word
Has promised you."

Thus humble sparrow and the prouder bird
Sweet comfort give;
And I, reminded of God's faithful Word,
More trusting live.

And throughout Nature's varied forms of life,
Where'er I look,
I find them all with references rife
To that dear Book.

As though this earth companion volume were
To sacred page,
Where man beholds the illustrious fair
From age to age.

—*National Repository.*

THE CHRISTIAN HOME.

The blessing of the Lord is in the Christian home. When the Ark of the Covenant, the sign of the Lord's presence, was in the house of Obed-Edom, it is said that "The Lord blessed the house of Obed-Edom, and all that he had." And this is in accordance with the saying of David: "The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the tabernacles of the righteous."

Matthew Henry has quaintly said of the Ark in Obed-Edom's house: "The Ark paid well for its entertainment. It is a guest that none shall lose by, that bid it welcome." Has not our Lord Himself said that if we seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, all these things, all that is necessary, "shall be added" unto us? And has not godliness "the promise of the life that now is"? Yes, if we be true to Him, He will "bless us, and all that we have;" bless us with that "blessing of the Lord which maketh rich, and addeth no sorrow therewith." There may be, and there will be, trial, sorrow, and disappointment; but with them support and comfort, and the assurance "that all things work together for good to them that love Him." Let us then ask God, though we are not worthy that He should enter under our roof, to come into our houses and bless them. Let us banish from them all that could grieve His Spirit or offend; and let us cherish only the things that are true and honest, good and pure, as well as lovely and of good report. So will the home on earth be a shadow of the heavenly home, where all will be peace, and purity and love.

"Every Christian family ought to be," says Jonathan Edwards, "as it were, a little Church, consecrated to Christ, and wholly influenced and governed by His rules. Family education and order are some of the chief of the means of grace. If these fail, all other means are likely to prove ineffectual: if these are duly maintained, all the means of grace are likely to prosper and become successful."

There is reason to fear that the Church of to day does not sufficently emphasize the importance and necessity of family religion as the means of maintaining her own spiritual life and power, and that the multiplicity of Church privileges leads many Christians to neglect their own exertions for the salvation of their children. The family altar and parental care for the souls of their children are too often neglected, under the impression that the Church can do all that needs to be done for their salvation. But only in proportion as piety rules in the home will the Church itself be found to flourish. Remove religion from the home, and you destroy the best work of the Church, and undermine the foundations of society.—*Selected.*

WHILE IT IS DAY.

The present is the time for toil. "The night cometh when no man can work;" but the day while it lasts affords us opportunity for service in the Master's cause. The day of life is brief, and is fast passing away; old age creeps on, shadows lengthen, eventide approaches; in a little while our work will be done.

The day of grace and salvation is also passing; the period of human probation grows briefer and briefer with each departing hour. A little while, and we may work no more; but now while it is day we are to be diligent, and whatsoever our hand findfindeth to do we are to do with our might. And when at last there can no more work be done, how sadly men will look back upon lost opportunities, wasted hours, and squandered privileges. The Master says, "Why stand ye here all the day idle?" "Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right, I will give you."—*Exchange.*

It is well enough to have a good, steady wheel-horse that will hold back going down hill, but it is equally important to have those that can give a good, strong pull going up hill. In every organization, the Church not excepted, it is important to have men of caution, who move slowly, but it is also necessary to have men of energy, who press forward in every good work with zeal. The proper blending of these two elements generally secures wise decisions and successful performances.—*Methodist Recorder.*

Useful Hints and Recipes.

TRANSPARENT TAFFY. — Two cups light brown sugar, half cup vinegar, half cup water, one teaspoonful butter. Boil until it hardens.

LAMP WICK.—An exchange says persons using kerosene lamps will be glad to know that if the wicks are soaked in strong vinegar twenty-four hours, and thoroughly dried before being inserted, all smoke will be avoided, the wicks will last twice as long and an increased brilliant light will be obtained. Try it.

GINGER SNAPS.—One pint of molasses, one cup of butter, a teaspoonful of ginger, one of cloves, one of soda; put all over the fire together, let it come to a boil; have a large vessel, or it will foam over. When nearly cool, add flour enough to make a dough, roll out, and cut in small cakes, and bake quickly.

NEW WAY OF SERVING OAT MEAL.—Take a dessert teaspoonful of oat meal, place it in the morning, in a tumbler, and fill up with new milk; let it stand all day, and take it for supper or for a night cap. The grains will have been softened by their long soaking in the milk, and it can be eaten with a spoon. This is said by its advocates to be a specific against neuralgia, and is also recommended for sedentary folks.

A GOOD SAUCE.—Delicious sauce for meats is made in this way: Slice a large onion and fry in butter till it is brown, then cover the onion with rich brown gravy, which is left from roast beef, add mustard, salt, pepper, and if you choose a tablespoonful of Worcestershire sauce; let this boil up, and if too thick, thin it with a little stock or gravy, or even a little hot water, with butter. Pour this when done through a fine sieve. Of course a larger quantity can be prepared at once than is here mentioned.

WALL ORNAMENT.—A handsome panel for the wall is made of a strip of black satin fifteen inches long and seven inches wide. On this is embroidered in silk a bunch of pinks. The top and bottom of the panel are finished with bands of scarlet plush about two inches wide. A brass wire is fastened to the top and a silk cord to hang it by. On the bottom are fine silk balls of various shades of red. The panel should be lined with some material of sufficient body to keep it smooth. Another elegant panel is made of pale blue satin or plush, with a bird and its nest painted on it in water colors.

TO UPHOLSTER A CHAIR.—A cane-seated chair is at best not very comfortable in cold weather, and may be improved by fastening a movable cushion to the back, at least, if not to the bottom also. This may be accomplished in various ways. One easy way is to purchase a scarlet Turkish towel, fasten a layer of cotton to it, line it with Turkey red calico, and catch it to the top of the chair with bows of ribbon, and at the bottom with some stout cord. The seat may be cushioned in the same way, and if the chair is small the towel will answer for both cushions. Patchwork or cretonne may be used in place of the Turkish toweling, but that is both serviceable and pretty.

CHICKEN PIE WITH OYSTERS.—Boil the chicken—a year old is best—until tender, drain off liquor from a quart of oysters, boil, skim, line the sides of dish with a rich crust, put in a layer of chicken, then a layer of raw oysters, and repeat until dish is filled, seasoning each layer with bits of butter, pepper, salt, and adding the oyster liquor and a part of the chicken liquor until the liquid is even with the top layer; now cover loosely with a crust having an opening in the centre to allow steam to escape. If the liquor cooks away, add chicken gravy or hot water. Bake forty minutes in a moderate oven. Make gravy by adding to chicken liquor left in pot (one quart or more) two tablespoonfuls of flour, rubbed smooth with two tablespoonsfuls of butter, and seasoned highly with pepper; let cook until there is no raw taste of flour, and serve.

Youth's Department.

BABY'S ROSE-LEAF.

He smiled as he opened the letter,
The look of weariness fled;
He held up a tiny pink blossom—
"My baby's rose-leaf," he said.

For the little maid out in the country
Thought of poor, tired papa in town,
And each day had a flow'ret ready
When the letter was folded down.

She could not write him a letter,
She was too litile, you know;
So to fern-spray, pansy and rose-leaf,
'Twas given her great love to show.

She brought these small off'rings as proudly
As though they were jewels rare;
She knew that to him who received them
They were all exceeding fair.

Shall we withhold from our Father
Our gifts, because they are small?
Rather, with sweet and childlike faith,
Bring to Him, lovingly, all.

—*Ex.*

MY LADY'S CHAMBER—A LENTEN STORY.

By Mrs. I. N. Ford.

Bang! went the front door. Patter! patter! on the stairs, and in rushed May from school with her weekly report to show mamma. Geography, spelling, and reading, all "ten," deportment and punctuality, "nine." "A very good week," as mamma said, with a smile, and May, well pleased, ran off to her own room "to have a good time," as she often said when asked why she stayed there so much.

It was no wonder that May loved her room. Such a pretty place as it was! Large, airy, and bright, with a soft Persian rug spread over the cedar floor, and on the walls morning-glories climbing everywhere; the dainty bed, with its coverlet of blue silk, the dressing-table, little rocking-chair, and tall wardrobe, were all made of polished oak; soft curtains hung at the bay-window, and, best of all, was the fire-place, where, in the twilight, May loved to sit before the glowing coals and study the story of Cinderella and Prince Charming, which was pictured in tiles beneath the mantel-shelf, while above it was a mirror in which she could see reflected the whole of her pretty domain.

May's papa was an artist, and his little daughter shared his love for all that was beautiful. "Ugly things make me shiver. I hate them," she would say, with a stamp of her tiny foot; and her parents, glad to add in every way to their little girl's happiness, had taken much pleasure in fitting up this beautiful room to be hers exclusively, and many were the happy hours she spent there.

The afternoon passed swiftly, and long before May would have thought it dinner-time the clash of the street-door warned her that papa had come and she must make ready for dinner.

"Kate," she called, running to the door, "Kate, I want the gas lighted and my hair brushed."

"In a minute, Miss May," responded Kate from the nursery. "I'm undressing Willie now."

"I can't wait," cried May, an angry flush spreading over her face. "Come now."

There was no answer to this, and the little girl waited an instant, then finding that she was not to have her own way, she lost control of the temper which was always getting her into trouble.

"Kate Winter," she screamed, "you mean, ugly thing. I will have my hair brushed, now—I will, I will, *I will!*"

Mrs. Townsend, in the library downstairs, listened with a sad face to this outbreak, but took no notice of it at the time, nor when May slipped into her place at the dinner-table; but at bed-time, when she had said good-night, her mother followed her upstairs.

"I want to have a talk with you, May," she said, drawing a chair to the fire and taking the child on her lap. "Have you had a pleasant afternoon, dear?"

"Not very," said May, reluctantly.

"And why?"

May was silent.

"Was it because you lost your temper again, and because you know how very wrong that is?

"Yes," whispered the little girl, hiding her face on her mother's shoulder.

"I thought so, and now I'll tell you of a plan I have. To-morrow will be Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, and that holy season, as you know quite well, commemorates the long fast which Jesus Christ kept for our sakes; and in the last week, or Holy Week, as it is called, what do we celebrate?"

"His death," murmured May.

"Yes, a cruel, lingering death for our sakes; and don't you think we ought to be very grateful to Him, and that a good way for a small girl to show her love and thankfulness for all the blessings He has sent her would be to make a new, strong effort to cure the naughty temper which must grieve that loving Saviour very deeply?"

"Yes, I do," said May, sitting up very straight. "But mamma, I'm afraid it's no use. I've tried, and tried, and I keep forgetting, and when anything goes wrong I never think a word about the good resolutions I've made, but get so mad, ah, *so* mad!"

"Ah! that is just why I think you should have something to remind you, something that will be constantly before you. Now, May, I think there are few things you love as you do this pretty room. It is a great pleasure to you, and just in the same way a pure, holy child who does her own little duties faithfully, is a happiness to all about her, and, above all, to her Heavenly Father, who watches her so closely that He sees not only all her actions, but the thoughts, good or evil, which fill her heart. When a little girl, who does well in many ways, fails constantly in one, as you do with your temper, dear, it is like an ugly blot or stain on a sweet picture. So, I think, if, during this season of Lent, every time you fly into a passion we put something ugly into this pretty room—something that spoils the harmony of colors and makes you wish constantly that it might be carried away—that you will remember how dark a spot an ugly temper is on the character of a little Christian. Whenever you bravely resist a temptation to be angry we will take away one of the ugly things we have brought in; and I hope, by Easter, my little girl's room will be bright and beautiful, and her heart pure and free from her besetting sin. Good-night, my darling."

For several days after this all went smoothly. But one fine morning, when May started for school, she found that three-year-old Willie had been unpacking her school-bag, which Kate had placed ready in the hall. He had flung the books all about the floor, and having opened her luncheon, was calmly eating her slice of cake, alternating with bites out of a very red apple.

"You naughty, naughty boy!" cried May, giving him a hearty slap. "You bad, wicked, dreadful little thing. I hate you. Yes, I do!"

Willie crept frightened and sobbing to mamma's lap, while May gathered up the scattered books, and went off with a cross frown on her pretty face.

When she returned that afternoon, and ran as usual to her room, she paused on the threshold in dismay. There over the mantel, entirely hiding the pretty mirror, and reaching nearly to the ceiling, was an oil portrait of an old gentleman, a great-uncle of her mother's, a picture long ago banished to the attic. He was a stiff, severe-looking old man, with his hair braided tight behind, and described in the family genealogy as "one Peter Mixer, a man of large demesne, and of a firm will." Now, May, although in some respects a very naughty little girl, was also a very sensible one. She entered fully into all that her mother had said concerning her fault, and was willing to try the proposed plan, but the sight of Peter Mixer taking possession of her mantel-piece in this way was very trying and it was an extremely mournful May who played dolefully with her doll that afternoon, and tried to forget grim old Peter in the pages of "Nellie's Silvermine."

The next week was a very disastrous one. A scrimmage with Kate resulted in the sudden appearance of an awkward tin wood-box painted a dull yellow, which occupied more than half the hearth. A hot quarrel over a trifling matter with a schoolmate who was spending one afternoon robbed May of her favorite rocking-chair, and substituted a clumsy, three-legged stool, which monopolized the remaining position of the hearth in a most tantalizing manner. Worst of all, on Saturday evening, when Mr. Townsend reproved her gently for being noisy, May returned a very saucy answer, and shut the door with a decided bang, as she ran pouting to her room. After half an hour's reflection she was really very much ashamed of this naughtiness, but was too proud to go down to the library and ask forgiveness, so she went to bed without any good-night kisses, or any sweet mother bending over her with a "God bless you, my darling." Nor was she surprised, on waking the next morning, to find her India muslin window-curtains exchanged for some of dull brown stuff.

"Ah! dear me!" thought May, as she was dressing, "if I am as disagreeable to have about as Peter Mixer is, and as those ugly brown curtains, if I make the house as unpleasant as they make my room, I don't see how anybody can bear me. I'll try real hard to be good to-day, and perhaps win back something pretty."

The weeks crept slowly on, and May really began to improve. Fewer and fewer grew the naughty outbursts of anger, and gradually May's pretty room resumed its wonted beauty, but over the mantel Peter Mixer still reigned triumphant.

"I can't sit by the fire nor wake up in the morning without seeing him," she complained. "Please mamma, won't you take it down?"

"Think why it was put there, dearie. You struck your own dear little brother, and said you hated him."

"May hung her head, but thought to herself, "I will have it down by Easter. I'll do something really sweet and kind for Willie; save my money and buy him a beautiful pot of flowers for Easter. Yes, that will do."

So the little girl worked away, fighting the naughty temper and saving her pennies, until the last day of Lent arrived. On that afternoon Mrs. Townsend took her to church, and after the service was over May asked leave to stop at the florist's and buy Willie's flowers. This she did, selecting a small white rosebush with three sweet blossoms, and carried it home herself, meaning to slip up to her own room and hide it until the next morning. Ah! poor little May! she did not know what a sore temptation was awaiting her as she tiptoed softly up the stairs, listening for Willie's footsteps, and hoping he would not pop out unexpectedly and spoil the surprise by seeing the roses too soon.

She reached her own door safely, and stepped briskly in, to find a most trying scene spread out before her. There on the floor, in front of the bookcase, sat Willie himself, half a dozen choice books tumbled down beside him, and in his lap her very best book, with the colored pictures, that uncle had given her on Christmas, and this extremely naughty little boy had been tearing out the pictures, one by one, until he had beside him a great pile; Aladdin with his wonderful lamp, Cinderella at the ball, Hop o'-my-Thumb in the forest, the Sleeping Beauty, the fair one with the golden locks, even the fairy princess—all were ruthlessly torn from the binding.

May stood quite still for a moment gazing at her brother, then suddenly setting down her pot of flowers, rushed to the bed, and flung herself down, sobbing bitterly. Willie dropped the book and fled to the nursery; but May did not follow. She held her hands tight over her mouth to keep back the angry words that were all ready to fly out, and lay there a long time until she was sure she could trust herself. Then rising, she picked up the rosebush again, and going to the nursery put it in Willie's arms, saying:

"You've seen it, so it's no use trying to keep it a secret. I bought it for you with my own money, and I forgive you, Willie, for spoiling my beautiful book."

* * * * * * * * *

The next morning, when May awoke, she lay contentedly gazing at the sunshine flickering through the curtains and making the morning-glories on the wall seem to nod to one another and smile "Good-morning," until a glance at the mantel made her jump up with a bound.

"Ah! Peter's gone! Peter Mixer's gone!" she shouted, dancing up and down on the hearth-rug: for there was her own dear little mirror shining and sparkling in the sunlight, and over it, in place of the ugly painting that had been like a blot on the bright wall, hung a copy of Sir Joshua Reynolds' "Angels' Heads," seeming like the spirits of Faith, Love, and Peace, come to dwell in May's beautiful room, and help her keep away the wicked impulses that will crowd into every little girl's heart unless, like May, she fights bravely and patiently to drive them away.—*Churchman.*

WHAT A PENNY CAN DO.

Willie's penny made heaven rejoice. It would have not bought more than a stick or two of candy, or given much help to a starving family. What did he do with it? His sister was a missionary's wife in Africa; and the family were filling a box to send to her. As one after another brought their gifts Willie said, "I want to give my penny."

"What shall be bought with it?" was the next question. It was decided to buy a tract and write its history on its margin, and with a prayer for its success send it on its distant errand.

The box arrived on the mission ground, and, among its valuable contents, Willie's gift was laid away unnoticed, and for a while forgotten. But God's watchful, all-seeing eye had not forgotten it. One day a native teacher was starting from the mission station to go to a school over the mountain. He knew the language well, and was a great help to the missionaries; but he was not a Christian. He had resisted everything the missionaries had done to make him one.

In looking over some papers, Willie's tract was discovered, with writing on the margin, which said that prayer was offered in America that it might do good. It was handed to the native teacher. He read it on his journey, and what years of labor by the missionaries had not done was brought about by the penny tract. The man became a sincere Christian. Those who put the tract in his hand were overcome with joy; and there is joy in heaven over one sinner that repents.

So you see how Willie's penny made heaven rejoice.—*Missionary News.*

WHAT ARE CLOUDS?

Though the clouds are such familiar objects, very little is known about them, and the processes by which they are formed and give back their moisture to the earth are unsolved mysteries. They cannot be classified as belonging to the solid, fluid, or gaseous form of matter. Yet they are defined as being "a collection of watery particles in the state of vapor, suspended in the air." If they are ordinary vapor, they must be governed by the laws which affect vapors. Brande defines vapor thus:

"When liquids and certain solids are heated, they become converted into elastic fluids or vapors, which differ from gases in this respect, that they are not under common circumstances permanently elastic, but resume the liquid or solid form when cooled down to ordinary temperature." According to this definition, clouds cannot be composed of ordinary vapor, for under all conditions their temperature must be below the condensing point of water-vapor. At the elevations at which clouds are often seen, they are in the regions of perpetual congelation; and as they float above the highest mountains they must be exposed, even in the sunshine, and certainly in the night, when the solar heat is not poured upon them, to temperatures colder than those of the frigid zones.—*C. Morfit, in Popular Science Monthly.*

JOLLY OLD WINTER.

A sturdier, kindlier, jollier wight
Than Winter seldom is seen;
His hair, his beard, his mantle are white,
His muscles like iron, I ween.

Healthy and strong from the crown of his head
To the sole of the foot is he;
A fire he scorns when he goes to bed
In his chamber lofty and free.

For a palace is his at the far North Pole,
Of ice he built it, and snow,
And a hunting lodge on each mountain top,
Where keenly the frost-winds blow.

His sheets he makes of the snow-drifts white;
At chinks and crannies he sneers.
He pricks up his ears and laughs with delight
When the merry sleigh-bell he hears.

But no pleasure he has in the song-bird's note;
No beauty in flowers he sees;
He hides them away 'neath his white fur coat,
And strips off the leaves from the trees.

The lakes and the rivers he fetters tight,
To hinder their flowing tide;
The ring of the skates is his great delight
As over the ice they glide.

A mighty despot for good as for ill,
A king, though his reign is short,
The sunshine would soften his iron will,
But dares not come to his court.

Yet kindly he welcomes the girls and boys,
Who gay to his presence go;
And blithe and brave are winter joys,
In the wake of the ice and snow.

—*Harper's Young People.*

CARRYING LADDERS.

When a small boy, I was carrying a not very large ladder, when there was a crash. An unlucky movement had brought the rear end of the ladder against a window. Instead of scolding me, my father made me stop, and said very quietly: "Look here, my son, there is one thing I wish you to remember; that is, every ladder has two ends." I never have forgotten it, though many years have passed. Don't we carry things besides ladders that have two ends? When I see a young man getting "fast" habits, I think he only sees one end of the ladder, the one pointed toward pleasure, and that he does not know that the other is wounding his parents' hearts. Many a young girl carries a ladder in the shape of a love for her dress and finery; she only sees the gratification of a foolish pride at the forward end of that ladder, while the end that she does not see is crushing modesty and friendship as she goes along thoughtlessly among the crowd. Ah! yes, every ladder has two ends, and it is a thing to be remembered in more ways than one.

A BIRTHDAY GIFT.

Baby Elsie was cooing in her crib. She was one year old to-day, and her mother and Aunt Marion were looking at her with delighted eyes, when there came a ring at the door. The postman handed in a letter, addressed in a quaint, cramped handwriting, to Elsie Allen.

"A letter to Baby!" exclaimed the surprised mamma. "And surely it is from Aunt Dorothy. Well, what has prompted this, I wonder?"

As the letter was opened, a piece of paper fluttered out. It proved on examination to be a check for $25. The letter was as follows:

"Baby Elsie's Great Aunt Dorothy sends her a birthday gift, which she hopes Baby's mother, niece Laura, will invest for Baby in the wisest way she can think of."

"Of course, Laura, you will put it in the savings bank for her, and let it be a nest-egg. Dear little girlie. It will be nice for her to have a bank-book of her very own."

"No," said Mrs. Allen, "I won't do that."

"Well, then I'd advise you spending it on the little thing herself. She needs a new dress and cloak, and she ought to have a sillver spoon and fork of her own, and that way of using it would, I am sure, be agreeable to Aunt Dorothy."

The young mother was looking at her child with a very sweet expression on her thoughtful face.

"Marion," she said, "I shall send this money to the Treasurer of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, and let its payment make Elsie a Life Member of that society. I want to bring her up to be an earnest and devoted child of God, and a servant of Christ; and when can I do better than to send this, her birthday gift, in her name, to help tell the old, old story to the perishing in heathen lands?"

And that was the investment which Aunt Dorothy's money made for a wee maiden, who, if she lives, will never remember the time when she was not interested in Foreign Missions.—*Christian Intelligencer.*

Pleasantries.

The reindeer is swifter than the mule; but the mule can stand still and make himself more keenly felt.

The price of a wife in Siberia is eight dogs; but an exchange says that, not knowing the market price of dogs in Siberia, it is hard telling whether this is cheap for a wife or not.

"Do you realize—have you reflected over it—Angelina?" whispered Clarence to his betrothed. "Only two weeks more and we shall be one! "But, remember, darling, I am to be that one."

The following advertisement actually appeared in a Western paper: "Lost! One vite calf. His two pehind legs most black. He was a she calf. Who brings him back pays five tollars. Fritz———."

Nothing makes a hard-working married woman so mad as to work all the morning making stuffing and uncanning jelly, and then to find out that the canvas backs her husband has hung up on the back porch are only a lot of decoys he has bought for a shooting trip.

An Englishman shooting small game in Germany said to his host that there was a spice of danger in shooting in America. "Ah!" said the host. "You like danger mit your sport. Then you go out shooting mit me. The last time I shoot mine bruder-in-law in the schtomack.

An Arkansas politican was approached by a man who said: "Colonel, please give me a nickel. I want to cross the river." "Haven't you got a nickel?" "No, sir." "I won't give you one. A man who hasn't a nickel is just as well off on this side of the river as the other. Now, if you had money enough to establish yourself in business, after crossing, I'd give you a nickel."

THE MESSENGER.

REV. P. S. DAVIS, D.D., EDITOR-IN-CHIEF.

REV. A. R. KREMER,
REV. D. B. LADY,
REV. H. H. W. HIBSCHMAN, D. D., } SYNODICAL EDITORS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS. Communications on practical subjects, and items of intelligence relating to the Church, are solicited. Persons who forward communications should not write anything pertaining to the *business of the office* on the back of their communications, but on a separate slip—or, if on the same sheet, in such a way that it can be separated from the communication, without affecting it.

☞ We do not hold ourselves responsible for the return of unaccepted manuscripts.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 1883.

We are glad that a correspondent has called attention to the scarcity of candidates for the ministry in our Church. Such paucity has caused serious apprehension in all the Churches. The appalling fact comes out that unless the number is largely increased, it is quite possible that the Church in a few generations may be almost without a ministry. The number entering the work hardly equals the number removed by death, and this in an age when home increase of membership calls for a division of fields, and immense territory is opening for missionary operations.

Any one who has read the letters of our correspondents from North Carolina and Nebraska will see that all the young men turned out by our theological Seminaries this year, might be profitably employed in those two states. This would leave all other fields, even old ones, unprovided for, although age and death are fast depleting the ranks of faithful workers.

Certainly this state of things should challenge our attention and enlist our activity. One thing more must be remembered, namely, that men cannot be picked up and ordained in a day. It will require years to prepare them, even if they should now offer themselves, and means to educate them should be forth-coming. We do not know how many students in our colleges have the ministry in view, but we cannot expect much of a supply until we can gather up recruits from the young, and train them for the work. The sooner we look this matter in the face and bestir ourselves to duty, the better it will be for us and the Church.

We learn from the *Gettysburg Compiler* that Rev. Walter E. Krebs, of Littletown, has accepted the Presidency of Allentown Female College, and will enter upon his duties in April. Our readers will be glad to hear that this important place has been filled by so competent a man, and we hope our people will come to his support in a most earnest practical way. It is a mistake to look upon this school as a mere *local* interest. It is an institution to which pupils should be sent from all parts of the Church, and more especially from the section east of the Alleghanies, not simply in the spirit of patronage, but because the daughters of our communion will be nurtured and trained there in her spirit and life. It is remarkable that while much has been done to establish higher schools and colleges for boys, the work of providing institutions for girls, has been left largely to individual men whose anxiety and toil have never been appreciated. This has been the case at Baltimore, Greensburg, and Allentown, and yet the education of daughters is quite as important as the education of sons.

From a statement published in the *Mifflinburg Telegraph*, we learn that Rev. A. C. Whitmer has made an earnest effort to buy back the old Elias Church of that place, once the joint property of the Reformed and Lutheran congregations, but sold some years ago by the School Board, and since used by Mr. Weirick as a barn. Bro. Whitmer says: "When I saw that my plan had failed, I asked Mr. Weirick for the contents of the corner-stone and received them, for which I here publicly thank him. He cut into the north end of the stone and found a small pine box, nine inches long, seven inches wide and four inches deep, with a sliding lid. In it were two Catechisms, and a folded paper (no doubt giving a history of the church, names of officers, building committee, &c.) The paper was almost dust. With a knife I lifted one fold, and could see the beautiful penmanship (in German of course,) but dared not try to open it further. I ventured to open the Catechisms, but they would not bear handling. The Heidelberg Catechism was printed in Germantown, Pa., in 1802. The Lutheran Catechism was dated 1804 These relics are in my care, and I will gladly show them to any one interested in them."

The Senior Class at Andover Theological Seminary have a monthly meeting with the faculty for the free discussion of what are called "living issues." Any student is at liberty to express his doubts and defend his position if possible over against his professor on any given point—the professor "neither asking nor giving quarter." It is thought this will develop manly inquiry and help young men to acquaint themselves with various arguments before entering the ministry. A danger may be with some, that it will lead them to think that they know more than their teachers.

Many of the Congregational ministers are declaring against funeral sermons. One objection to them is that they are expected to be panegyrics, which even if deserved in some cases, are looked for in others where truth does not justify them. To relieve this embarrassment of ministers and friends the Association of Hartford, Connecticut, has decided to use the Episcopal form for the burial of the dead, and refrain from remarks upon the character of the deceased when services are held at private houses.

A convention of such ministers and laymen of the old Pennsylvania Synod as favor the establishment of a Bishopric in the Lutheran Church in the United States, has been called to meet in St. John's church, Easton, on the 27th and 28th of this month. It is well known that the Lutheran Church in Sweden is Episcopal in its form of government while in this country it is virtually Congregational—none of the Synods or Councils having anything more than advisory power. Many leading men here favor the election of a Bishop, especially, as the various duties of one are already vested in the Presidents of their church assemblies. The following subjects will be discussed at the coming meeting: "The Episcopate in the Early Church;" "The Episcopate in the German Reformation;" and "Should we have the Episcopate in the Lutheran Church in America?"

The Lutherans of this country propose to erect a statue of Martin Luther in Washington city, and hope to accomplish the work by the 10th of November, the four hundredth anniversary of the Reformer's birth. It will be a duplicate of the central figure of the world-renowned Worms group. The figure is of bronze, eleven and a half feet high, and will cost $6000 when placed upon the pedestal.

CONFIRMATION AT EASTER.

It has come to be a uniform custom throughout our Church to prepare catechumens for confirmation at Easter. Any other time would be proper; times and seasons must not be held in superstitious reverence; the shadows of new moons and Sabbath days must not be taken for the substance; nevertheless Easter draws and will draw the Church to itself, as Christ drew His people to the cross and to the empty tomb.

The Easter season, beginning with Septuagesima, is a peculiarly appropriate and solemn period in which to complete the course of instruction to catechumens. And what time could be better calculated for the finishing touch than Holy Week? Nearly all our ministers and people observe it with great solemnity. We hear no one now urging that the practice is un-Reformed. Even if such were the fact, the sooner we make it Reformed the better. At any rate, there is now no controversy on the subject anywhere in our communion; and the approaching Easter will again witness throughout all our borders glorious ingatherings of souls into the full embrace of the Church.

But it may be necessary to say a word of caution to those who are looking forward to the increase of the Church at Easter. There is a strong temptation on the part of pastors to exhibit a large *number* of additions. And after the confirmations of the year, especially if the number is large, there is a feeling of special satisfaction that may have a tinge of worldliness in it. Confirmation is too much regarded as the end of a long process—a graduation in the school of Christ that implies finished work. On the contrary, this is just the sentiment that should be guarded against. The newly confirmed are not in a condition to take care of themselves. They should be watched over with special care. They need to be more fully grounded and built up in the faith, in order to be able to meet and overcome the temptations of the world. Having publicly and solemnly engaged to serve the Lord, having ratified and confirmed the covenant made in their baptism, they are the openly declared enemies of Satan, and must expect to fight. Therefore the pastor, and others that are charged with the care of souls, have a great work to do as guides and leaders of the new recruits in the Lord's army. Let it be proclaimed all along the line that those who have been sworn into the service of Christ must not be idlers, or expect to appear on dress parade during the remainder of their lives. They should be trained and taught for good service in Christ's kingdom, both before and after their confirmation.

We remember a Reformed minister, now in the Church above, who immediately after confirming a class would put the Church paper into the families of such of them as had not taken it. He did not believe that catechumens should become fossils as soon as they were confirmed, and stop learning; he believed in *growth* in grace and in the knowledge of things pertaining to religion. Indeed the more important pastoral work is *after* confirmation. Then begins the real conflict with sin, and unless there be steady growth in the graces of the Christian life the victory may not be won. Having been instructed in the rudiments of the Christian doctrine they need to be armed daily with new supplies from the armory and storehouse of Divine truth.

It will repay ministers and people to read over again and remember the very interesting account, in the MESSENGER of Feb. 7th, of the way Dr. Reinecke prepares his catechumens for confirmation, and how he cares for them afterwards.

K.

WE WILL ALSO GIVE OUR OPINION.

Much is required to constitute the ministry of the Church a power for the highest good of humanity. In no calling of life is there such imperative demand for specific diversity of gifts. And only he, in whom they are found to a greater or less degree, has power to elevate his fallen fellow-man. If those only, in whom the essential scriptural elements are found, are ordained to fill the sacred office, the pulpit will wield the influence over humanity God intends it should.

The day will come when the earthly courts of the Lord will be thronged to hear the Gospel of joy and consolation. The bright period will come, in the course of the human family, when no one will perish for want of saving knowledge. The isles of the sea and the four corners of the earth will be under the transforming power of the grace and truth of the Gospel, concerning the Son of God. No voice will be as sweet as the voice sounding from the pulpit, and no power to be compared with the power of the pulpit.

We are not willing to concede that the pulpit has entirely lost its power. Nor that the teaching of the moral and religious press has taken the place of the pulpit for the highest good and instruction of the people. It is the class of people who are moulded and under the power of the pulpits of the Churches in the land who take, read and study the papers published by the religious press.

Without pulpit power there will be no reader of a moral and religious press. It is the pulpit that creates the taste for religious and moral literature. We admit that the religious press, if in harmony with the teaching of God's word, is a power for good no one can appreciate too much; but it is not God's ordained means unto salvation. By the foolishness of preaching men shall be saved.

But does the pulpit have and exert the power it should? Far from it. This we must lament. It gives forth much uncertain sound. It lulls many whom it should waken from death lethargy more deeply to sleep. Would it were otherwise, so that the millennial day of peace would come.

The pulpit has power if those who occupy it realize intensely the awfulness and sinfulness of sin. No man, who has no lively consciousness that sin is as odious and hateful as the Scriptures assert, is qualified to speak to sinners for God. This is one chief element to give the pulpit power. Yet realization of the awfulness of sin and consciousness of God's hatred of sin is not sufficient in itself. There must be the Nathan courage to drive the disagreeable truth home to the hearts of the wicked Davids. Without this the pulpit deserves the reproach of sinful tongues, and the scathing rebukes of the eagle-eyed custodian—the secular Press.

Sin is an inherent evil dominating over the physical, mental and spiritual faculties of man. It is the festering root of all the maladies of the children of Adam, and the father of all the pride and arrogance of man before his Maker. It is not a light, trivial thing at which we may wink and blink. When the progenitor of the race became infected his created glory departed. He was unmade, and all his posterity became affected by his ignominious fall.

Sin made a breach between heaven and earth, brought woe and misery into the world, drove man from a state of purity and innocency into one of guilt and vileness, and interrupted the communion between the Maker and the rational creature. It is a fearful, terrible, devastating power. It is the sting of death. It is the hell of torment for unsaved man for time and eternity. If these truths are realized on the part of the ministry and unflinchingly proclaimed from the sacred rostrum; if practical evidence of this realization of the undeniable fact is given, in determined opposition to sin in every form it manifests itself, by the ministry before the unbelieving world; if no disposition on their part is displayed to connive at sin, we have the first requisite element, we repeat, to give the pulpit power. If sin did not abound everywhere antagonistic to everything good; if it had not blurred and marred the image of God in man the office of the ministry would never have been constituted by the Most High. A sin-hating sin-antagonizing, sin denouncing ministry gives the pulpit power that cannot justly be decried.

It is to be feared the teaching of the pulpit, in many places, has been, and is, too lax, and cool, and indifferent, concerning the doctrine of sin as taught in the BOOK. There is not enough, Thus saith the Lord: "In the day thou eatest thereof, thou shalt surely die." To influence the desperately wicked in the world, to come to the Rock higher than man, is there not too much practical infidelity concerning the nature, character and consequences of sin in the pulpit itself? Is it not true that the pulpit is chargeable with inexcusable short-comings deplored by devout members of the kingdom, and wept over by witnessing angels? We shall not answer.

If the pulpit cannot be deterred from denouncing sin and wickedness in the Church and in the world; if the pulpit and the Church are boldly, aggressively antagonistic to the kingdom of Satan: if there is no compromising on the part of the pulpit with the inimical world concerning sin and iniquity there will then be demonstration of supernatural power among the dead bones in the valley. The Holy Ghost does work by the word, through men who hate, and flee from sin, and who do not shrink to denounce it in others. In the degree the pulpit has lost its power in that degree, in our opinion, has infidelity found its way there.

He who is himself in love with sin cannot hope to be instrumental, through the preaching of the word, to influence others to shun forbidden paths, and flee the wrath to come. There can be no power in teaching others when the instructor does not exemplify that which he proclaims. "The greatest obstructors to the success of the word are those whose bad lives contradict their good doctrine: who in the pulpit preach so well that it is a pity they ever should come out: and out of the pulpit live so ill, that it is a pity they ever should go in." Consistency of life on the part of the recognized ambassadors of God will give pulpit potency of the most elevating and refining order, commanding the respect and admiration even of the desperately wicked world. But we will animadvert no longer on this important truth.

H.

We are requested by Rev. J. David Miller, President, to say that, besides the election of elders as delegates to Mercersburg Classis, it will be necessary for those charges which are to belong to the proposed Juniata Classis to elect delegates to help constitute that body. The Juniata Classis will be organized immediately after the adjournment of the Mercersburg Classis, and delegates should bring proper credentials to both.

Rev. C. A. Briggs, D. D, of the Union Theological Seminary, New York, has accepted the invitation of the Society of Inquiry at Lancaster, to preach the annual sermon before the students on the evening of the ninth of May.

ANOTHER MINISTER GONE.

Rev. Joseph Hannaberry died in Ridgely, Maryland, on Tuesday morning, Feb. 27th, and was buried from Ridgely church, of which he was pastor, on the 2d of March. Up to the hour of going to press, we have not been able to get any further particulars, and we only know that the God-fearing, self-sacrificing missionary has been taken to his reward. Some record of his life and labors will be made in future.

Rev. H. K. Binkley has obtained twenty-one new subscribers for the MESSENGER and six for the *Hausfreund*, in the Hamilton charge, including Tannersville. Rev. M. H. Mishler is pastor. The agent has not yet finished the canvass of the Hamilton charge.

Communications.

THE REVEREND HENRY SCHANTZ BASSLER.

By Rev. C. Z. Weiser, D. D.

[EPITOME:—*Parents*, Henry Bassler and Barbara Schantz; *Born*, August 11th, A. D. 1804; *Birthplace*, Lower Milford, Lehigh county, Pa.; *Baptism and Confirmation*, Zionsville, Lehigh county, Reformed church, Rev. Daniel Zeller, Allentown, Pa., in his seventeenth year; *Trade*, Currier; *Preceptor*, Rev. Jacob Wm. Dechant, 1822—6; *Evangelist*, 1826—7; *Seminary Course*, Carlisle, Pa., 1827—9; *Licensure*, Synod of Lebanon, Pa., 1829; *First Charge*, Beaver Dam, Union (Snyder) county, Pa., 1829—33; *Marriage*, Mary Rebecca Dechant, October, 1831; *Second Charge*, Hilltown, Boyertown (Bucks, Montgomery and Berks counties), Pa., 1833—43; *Third Charge*, Lykens Valley, Dauphin county, Pa., 1843—51; *Fourth Charge*, Millerstown, Lehigh county, Pa., 1851—54; *Fifth Charge*, Lykens Valley, second term, 1854—6; *Sixth Charge*, Pleasant Grove, Fulton county, Ind., 1856—8; *Seventh Charge*, Forreston, Ogle county, Ill., 1858—9; *Eighth Charge*, Berrysburg, Dauphin county, Pa., 1859—65; *Ninth Charge*, Zionsville, Lehigh county, Pa., 1865—71; *Tenth Charge*, Hegins, Schuylkill county, Pa., 1871—7; *Retirement*, Millersburg, Dauphin county, Pa., 1877; *Death*, Feb. 17, 1883; *Age*, 78 years, 6 months, and 6 days.

PASTORAL STATISTICS. — *Baptisms*, 2,000; *Confirmations*, 1,000; *Communions*, 700; *Marriages*, 500; *Funerals*, 1,500; *Sermons*, 5000; *Miles of Travel*, 150,000; *In Active Service*, 53 years; *Average Salary*, $350.

FAMILY SUMMARY.—*Married Life*, 57 years; *Offspring*, 11 children—7 sons and 4 daughters; *Surviving Members*, 4 sons and 4 daughters; *Grand-children*, ———]

Funeral Discourse.

"*He was a burning and a shining light; and ye were willing for a season to rejoice in His light.*"—JOHN v. 35.

PERSONAL SKETCH.—After fourscore years, filled with noble deeds and heroic sacrifices, Father Bassler has gone to Glory. His works of one-half century in the Reformed Church do follow him—an old-time minister of Christ and stalwart soul—to the venerable company of home-made and well-made pastors and servants of the Most High God.

Such a life-route presents a living epistle which may be known and read of all men unto edification. How glad we are, too, that he has marked the many mile-stones for us with his cunning, though trembling hand! We may trace his lithe and weary footsteps, now, from his lowly advent on earth to his entrance into heaven. And though his honorable record be but a skeleton, in which much must be said between the lines, since no live man can write all he lived, and would not if he might, it is withal a living one.

His was a humble Pennsylvania-German parentage. In the rural and sparsely settled valley of Lower Milford, Lehigh county, he first saw the light. Of his father he knew little, and says nothing. His mother had been a maiden of Mennonitish descent, whose patronymic he ever and affectionately carried with his name in an initial form, and whose kinship is large, but unpretending.

No ancestral prestige prevented him; no smiling surrounding cheered his young years; no pleasing prospect beckoned him on. He grew into his 17th year, amid companions of like origin and circumstances, in no wise differing from the youths of that latitude and day.

Were we asked to indicate any marks peculiar to his individual history, or uncommon to the Pennsylvania-German lad, fifty or seventy years ago, we might mention, perhaps, the still greater number of hindrances and fewer helps, that ordinarily fell into the lap of his cotemporaries.

We emphasize this feature in Henry Bassler's boyhood for a purpose. Read in the light of his subsequent history, it contains a sting of rebuke for many a favored son, who yet cannot refrain from complaining of his hard lot; whilst to others, of a better mind, it offers encouragement to emerge out of obscurity, in spite of adverse and forbidding surroundings. The road from Nazareth to Jerusalem is a narrow, hard, yet open road. It is the royal highway to success, ever since the King of men broke it for all true believers.

True, a good ancestry is a grand inheritance. A circle of favorable surroundings; a horizon of pleasing prospects, lying about one's feet—these are incentives and stimulants to an upward course. The child, born with its face to the wall is, indeed, threatened with "burial alive" from the beginning. The only way of averting the impending doom is by the slow process of climbing, or by the yet slower and harder task of tunnelling. Few there are who undertake to do either. "But iron sharpeneth iron," nevertheless. So he who early heeds the challenge which adversity ever throws down, "Survive or perish!" will speedily experience a strength of will and a potency of faith, which renders it easy to either remove mountains or surmount them. And thus it came to pass, that the taunt—"*Can any good come out of Nazareth?*" has been changed into the noun—"*All* good comes out of Nazareth."

Young Bassler was dared to exhibit the majesty of such a faith, and took up the gauntlet. Shut in on all sides by stern obstacles, he determined at once to work upwards and outwards, from his waif-like birth-level—from a depth lower than the plane on which nine-tenths are born. Had he but aimed at a bare self-preservation, he would then have been awarded a "well-done," indeed. Hundreds of hapless lads, with but one talent and a thousand obstructions besetting their path, have in after life congratulated

themselves on having escaped a total engulfing—on having simply survived.

But amid the vats and pits of the tannery, over which his guardian had placed him as a minor for three years, Henry Bassler felt a loud call to come up higher. Down in the bottom of those watery enclosures, he saw the heights of the heavens reflected. And so he determined on an ascension. Consequently, Henry Bassler's name is placed on the long list of good and useful men, who emerged from darkness and vacancy, weighted and clogged from their early dawn, into light and significance. Written in the dust at first, it is now recorded in heaven. Hallelujah!

Under the message of the Rev. Daniel Zeller, he first comes into view, in a class of candidates for church-fellowship, at Zionsville, in his native county, and near his native place. Little had the humble country parson known that there stood one among them, who in Gospel labors would excel himself. Instructed and confirmed in the Christian creed, at seventeen he was admitted to full membership in the Reformed church. On the same day and at the same altar, mother and son bowed the knee, and dedicated their hearts to God.

It is his own declaration, that the desire to enter the ministry pressed evenly, heartily, and steadily upon him. But the gateway seemed to him, not only narrow, but actually shut—barred to all youths of his means, in that day. The aid and comfort now proffered to the anxious indigent candidate for such an office and mission, were wholly unknown then. Besides, were not all the vineyards of the Lord filled with husbandmen? Where might he then find a place to labor? Father Dubbs once demurely informed us, that his relations earnestly discouraged him from the way to the pulpit, "because the stations over all Eastern Pennsylvania were supplied." They fancied that none would resign and none would die; and outside of the region they did not suffer their thoughts to run. Let us not blame our sires too much, since even the Apostles had hard work to believe that the Gospel must be carried outside of Judea.

But Henry Bassler, the young tanner, knew too, that with God all things are possible. Had He not called one from the sheep-cote? Another had been called right out of the plough's furrows. Another had been a tent-maker. A whole company had God found in fishing-boats. Had not God's workshop ever been very small, and His instruments of weakness itself? And so Henry Bassler believed God might lead him out of the tan-yard into His vineyard. He would, therefore, wait on the Lord.

The door by which he was to enter upon the choice calling of his life, opened simultaneously with his mature manhood, the one was pushed ajar as quietly and as easily as the other. Nor was he the worse, but the better, prepared in body and mind, because of the lateness of the hour. He had grown under the discipline of a useful trade. His faith and conviction had been solidified. It had been an Apostolic rule, to be fishermen ere they could be fishers of men. The old Reformed pastors had all gone in by such a door. And a hardy race came over that way, indeed. Men who are asked to buy the truth at such a price never sell it either—not at the first onset of trials and temptations, at all events. Neither do they ever stand "waiting for the wagon," to coach them on and over the passes. They but hope for the prophet's chariot at the end of the way.

Agitated, but yet patiently waiting, the young man now knocked at the door of Pastor Jacob William Dechant, a neighboring minister, whose name and presence had been familiar over Eastern Pennsylvania. To him he first revealed the secret of his heart, for counsel and determination. The ardent pastor, who had proven so ready to conduct young men into the pulpit, became young Bassler's spiritual adviser and early preceptor.

Once under Dominie Dechant's roof tree, he tarried in his friendly household during the four years following, with but exceptional intervals—yea, became a part of it, indeed. Here he commenced and eked out a long, hard, preparatory course of study. He was obliged and willing to go far down in the bottom rudiments of even an ordinary culture. And herein we may see another evidence of the earnestness of his conviction, as well as a genuine proof of his humility, that he patiently and persistently devoted himself to such a tedious process of sub-soiling. Having denied himself, he took up his cross, and carried it over the entire way, then open to a candidate for the Reformed ministry.

Who may realize the hardships and discouragements that confronted the uncouth young man in the rough? This new turn in his life made it necessary for him to be born again, as it were. To abandon his trade for a profession, so new and so entirely different; to exchange the routine of manual labor for the unknown birth-throes of mental activity—all this involved the *orienting* of his very self.

Still, others had beaten the track for him, and he had but to follow. And he did follow as fast as the trailing way had opened. When told by fanatical spirits to strike a nearer way, he rather obeyed his spiritual fathers, who thought, "*Der Liewe Gott braucht Keine Hals-Köpfe!*"

Under the preceptor's missionary spirit, Student Bassler caught the spark of evangelizing, too. He would visit the scattered sheep of the Reformed fold elsewhere. Presently is he on the way. And more interesting than a romance is the story of his ride on horseback, from Pottstown, Pa., to Guilford, North Carolina, over 700 miles.

How he fared along and over the route—a pilgrim of the lonely way; the hospitality he received at the hands of noble and mean householders; the knowledge he gained outside of books and his local horizon; his many weeks and months of experience away from his warm fireside and warmer heart of Dominie Dechant—his history as an evangelist, the old pastor told with much unction in later years.

He spent one year in journeying, visiting, and exhorting. Right glad, too, were the hungry Palatinates abroad, to see and hear him. They begged him to remain. But this could not be. He must return to Pennsylvania, and enter upon a better course of training for his life-work, than he had as yet enjoyed. As anxious as he proved to preach the Gospel, so fearful was he now, lest he might not hasten slowly.

We are almost sorry that our own way to the pulpit had not lain over such a missionary tour. Would that we had been obliged to do the work of an evangelist during our novitiate service! And now, since we cannot enjoy such a practical lesson, we most affectionately pray all noble seminarians to decorate their *curriculum* by such an educational variety and solidifying recreation. Pastor Bassler never wholly out-lived the evangelizing spirit which had been thus early fanned into a blaze.

After three years' longer study in the Theological Seminary at Carlisle, Pa., he forever forestalled the subsequent upbraidings of his conscience and the reflections of others, that his had been a too hasty preparation. Few ministers of his day, in our church, tested themselves more severely, or equipped themselves in a fuller pulpit armor.

The Synod of Lebanon, Pa., approved him as qualified to preach the Gospel. Nor were his examiners mistaken. The church had no truer son or a more faithful servant. Accordingly, at the ripe age of twenty-five, and after five years' earnest study, and one year's practical work, he at last fairly reached the goal for which he sighed and lawfully ran from his boyhood. And if it be one of the marks of a genuine call that no hands must be laid on suddenly, both he and his church may safely believe that in his case, at least, a providential voice had sounded.

(To be continued.)

HOW IT WORKS.

The value of a church paper is never so apparent, as when you are visiting in a community in which some do, and others do not, take it. The last named are always acknowledging their ignorance of the movements of their denomination in her various departments of church work. They know nothing of the calls upon the churches in the sphere of foreign and home missions, or of her educational and publication interests. How, indeed can they know what is asked for if they do not receive these periodicals? Those who receive and read the paper, are almost certain to catch the spirit of some particular interest. Just now missions seem to be the particular work in the Reformed Church, in which most of her members are enlisted. A lady asked the writer, "Have you read the appeal from a missionary, published lately in the MESSENGER? How can such a call fail of meeting some response?"

Another earnest brother feels that we must send other helpers to aid Bro. Gring in his mission in Japan. He read an editorial in the MESSENGER. "God bless the MESSENGER, I thought, it is carrying the wants of the Church and her missions to the homes of the people, and God's Spirit is moving on their hearts." Let the Boards of Missions give the people the information they should have on these subjects, and responses will come. The denomination which is active in the work of missions will not have her candlestick removed. Christianity is essentially missionary. The command of the Master is, to go into all the world and preach the gospel. Just as we are filled with this spirit, will the life of Christ be manifest, and Himself be glorified in us as a denomination. We sometimes hear it said, the people do not read the church paper. It is a mistake. The MESSENGER was never so largely, or so well read as it is now. The earnest membership are beginning, and ministers too, to realize the great value of our Church papers. There is a greater desire to increase their circulation, and the Reformed people are proud of the standing of their periodicals among the religious publication press of the land. The MESSENGER should have a circulation three times as large as at present. This can easily be accomplished, if the Church will co-operate with the Publication Board in its efforts to secure this end. I.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION AT MIDDLEBURG.

The Reformed Church Sunday-school Convention of the Third District of the Mercersburg Classis, was held in Middleburg on Thursday and Friday, Feb. 22d and 23d. The meeting opened by the singing of an anthem by the choir and prayer by Rev. J. B. Shontz, of Shippensburg, after which the convention organized by unanimously electing Rev. I. G. Brown, of Mercersburg, President, and Jas. E. Fisher, of Greencastle, Secretary. The other ministers and delegates in attendance were Rev. W. C. Cremer, Chambersburg; Rev. J. S. Kieffer, Hagerstown; Rev. F. F. Bahner, Mrs. M. L. Morganthall, Mrs. Ada Forney, and Mr. H. J. Gilbert, Trinty Reformed School, Waynesboro; Capt. Joseph Stickle, St. Paul's School, Waynesboro; Rev. W. H. Herbert, J. Calvin Fuss, and Augustus Omwake, Marion; Rev. C. Cort, Mrs. Cort, Mrs. Elizabeth Schafhirt, Mrs. Eliza Brumbaugh, Mrs. Josephine Fisher, Miss Lizze Schafhirt, Miss Zouri Proetzman and Miss Nettie Hollar, Greencastle; D. S. Barnhart, Webster Hartle, Charles Heser, J. A. Witmer, P. N. Brumbaugh, Joseph Keeny, Dr. H. S. Herman and Geo. W. Kuhn, Middleburg.

The attendance of delegates was quite respectable and the audiences were large and attentive during all the sessions of the convention. After the Address of Welcome by Mr. Jacob Witmer, Superintendent of the Reformed Sunday-school at Middleburg, and the response to the same by Rev. F. F. Bahner, the Religious Character of Washington was discussed by Revs. W. C. Cremer, and C. Cort. As this was the Anniversary of Washington's birthday the topic was deemed very appropriate as well as interesting and instructive.

It was shown from undoubted authority that Washington was faithful and devout in the private and public performance of his duties as a member of the Christian church while at the same time he was no bigoted sectarian. He worshiped and communed with Reformed and Presbyterians as well as with the Episcopal denomination, while he was commander-in-chief of the army and President of the United States. Gambling, Sabbath desecration and profane swearing were strictly forbidden by him. When Colonel he once issued the following order: "The officers are desired, if they hear anyone swear or make use of an oath or execration, to order the offender twenty-five lashes immediately without a court martial. For the second offence he shall be more severely punished."

Dr. H. S. Herman made an instructive address on the benefits of the Sunday-school from a purely sanitary point of view, in promoting health and cleanliness. The duty of parents to the Sunday-school was earnestly discussed by Rev. J. B. Shontz and others. Not only money and influence, but personal presence of parents is needed in the Sunday-school. Rev. Bahner discussed the Educational idea of Religion in distinction from the emotional theory. The first was scriptural, Reformed and harmonized well with the Sunday-school system when properly managed.

Rev. I. G. Brown and others showed how the Sunday-school could be made to aid the mission cause by contributions and by raising up missionaries and also by gathering neglected children into the school. W. Rush Gillan, Esq., was to have demonstrated that the Sunday-school was a Conservor of Law and order, but was prevented from being present by sickness in his family. In his absence the topic was discussed by a number of the delegates who made special reference to the violation of human and divine law in the cock fights which came off just across the State line a few days previous. Sunday-school people had no part or lot with those disgraceful and unlawful proceedings. On the contrary the Reformed Sunday-school people of Middleburg had solemnly protested against the contemplated outrage and warned its members not to attend, in a formal resolution adopted by the school on the Sunday before the gamblers and sportsmen from Virginia and Maryland had invaded the border and disgraced the adjoining commonwealth of Maryland by their heathenish doings. The law abiding and Christian people of Maryland were advised to enforce the provisions of the common law against the marauders if they undertook to repeat their nefarious conduct (as report says they expect to do) a few weeks hence.

Rev. W. H. Herbert discussed the mission of the Sunday-school teacher in an earnest and thoughtful address.

Rev. J. S. Kieffer of Hagerstown, Md., made an interesting and instructive address on the "Æsthetic influence of the Sunday-school."

The Beautiful as well as the good and the True, is a part of true Christian culture. A pure taste would go along with sound doctrine and correct morals in a symmetrical development of the intellect, the will and sensibilities. God had filled the world with beauty, and it is right to press the noblest works of art into the service of the Sunday-school. Choice pictures representing Bible scenes and flowers should be used to brighten and beautify the school-room, and the best of music ought to be provided.

After resolutions of thanks on the part of the convention to the kind friends in and around Middleburg for their generous hospitality, and a counter resolution from the Sunday-school and audience to the delegates from abroad for the rich intellectual and spiritual repast furnished during the past two days the Convention closed its sessions by repeating in unison the Creed and the Lord's Prayer.

Prof. Kuhn and the choir with the new organ did much to enhance the interest and enjoyment of the occasion. C.

ANNIVERSARY OF A MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The Missionary Society connected with the Sunday-school of the First Reformed Church of this city, observed its second anniversary at Handel and Haydn Hall, on Wednesday evening, February 21st.

The attendance was large, the attention of the audience fixed until the end of the programme was reached, when all returned to their homes with the conviction that they had passed the evening in a most pleasant and profitable manner.

After singing, appropriate passages of Scripture were read by the president, and prayer was offered by the pastor. An address was then delivered by the Rev. J. L. Amerman, a missionary of the Reformed Dutch Church in Tokio, Japan, giving a description of the Mission-House and surroundings, where our own missionaries, Mr. and Mrs. Gring reside. Following this he gave a description of the different forms of idolatry practiced in that country, in which the children are instructed from earliest infancy almost. At the close of his address Mr. Amerman excused himself on account of other engagements, and left the hall; but by a unanimous vote the audience expressed their thanks to him for his interesting remarks. A colloquy was then rendered by five girls, each one of whom represented a heathen country, thus appealing to all to aid in the good work of missions.

Then followed the offerings of the various Sunday-school classes, remarks by the pastor and president of the Society, singing and the benediction.

During the past year the Society, now numbering 119 members, has contributed one hundred and forty-one dollars, and all this has been devoted to missionary purposes, fifty eight dollars having been sent to Butler's Orphan Home as a Christmas gift. Of the balance a portion has been given to missions in Philadelphia, and to those on the Pacific Coast, to Foreign Missions, the American Sunday-school Union, and other objects. The Society was organized by the zeal of a few Sunday-school teachers, who have maintained it with unswerving devotion, who find ample compensation for all their labor and benevolence in the words of the Master: "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of these my little ones, ye have done it unto me." V. H.

THE DISABLED MINISTERS AND WIDOWS' FUND SOCIETY.

It is not our purpose in this short article to speak of the importance of this society in the church, but rather to set forth a plan by which it may easily be endowed in a few years and made efficient among us.

The church numbers now about eight hundred ministers, and as many charges. A certain Classis which the writer has in mind numbers sixteen ministers. This Classis has placed the Disabled Ministers and Widows' Fund Society on their list of benevolent objects and appropriates every year $65 to this object; thus making one of their number a life member of the society every year, in the order in which they appear on the roll of Classis. In this way this Classis will have made life members of this society of all its ministers in sixteen years, and paid into the treasury the nice little sum of one thousand and forty dollars.

Remembering that the church now numbers about 800 ministers, it is easy to see that even without swelling our ranks, if all the Classes at the rate of every sixteen ministers will make one of their number a life-member of the society every year, there will be, in sixteen years, an endowment of $51,400 from this source alone. And surely there is no reason why this should not be done; for the assessment for this object would average only the small sum of $4.10 on each pastoral charge per year, for a term of sixteen years.

Why do not all the Classes adopt and carry out this plan? Who will answer? A. B. K.

Church News.

OUR OWN CHURCH.

Synod of the United States.

The First Reformed Church in this city, has purchased the property at the south-west corner of Tenth and Wallace streets, upon which to build a new church edifice. The congregation was established in 1727, and celebrated its one hundredth and fiftieth anniversary in 1877. Since the sale of the Race street property it has been worshipping in a hall, and we are glad to know that it will soon have a new home.

Mr. Yamanaka, our Japanese student, was present at the afternoon services in the Green street church on Sunday, and made an address. His modest bearing, and the advancement he is making in his studies impressed the people favorably.

At a special meeting of West Susquehanna Classis, held at Williamsport, Wednesday evening, 7th of February, Rev. J. S. Wagner was installed pastor of the English Reformed Church of that place. Rev. R. L. Gerhart preached the sermon and Rev. A. C. Whitmer conducted the installation service.

About 160 persons came in quietly upon Rev. A. C. Whitmer a week or two ago, and left substantial evidences of their regard. About thirty were from Laurelton, and many came from the country trudging long distances at great inconvenience. On this account their visit was more highly appreciated.

Synod of the Potomac.

Rev. J. G. Noss, formerly of Westminster Reformed charge, has accepted a call to the Silver Run charge.

Rev. George A. Whitmore, of Dayton, Pa., has accepted a call from the Mill Creek charge, Va., and expects to enter upon his duties there on the 15th March. His post office address, thereafter, will be Rinkerton, Shenandoah county, Va.

Pittsburg Synod.

Rev. L. C. Edmonds having accepted a call from the Red Bank charge, his post office address after April 1st, will be Fairmount, Clarion county, Pa.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

A special meeting of the Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States, will be held in the First Reformed Church of Harrisburg, Pa., on Tuesday, March 13th, at 2 P. M., to consider the following items:—

1. Report of the Executive Committee.
2. To examine candidates for the Mission Work in Japan.
3. To consider a proposition to attach our mission to the "Union Church of Japan."
4. The expediency of sending out a Lady Missionary.
5. Any other items which the interests of the work may require.

By order of the Executive Committee.

THOS. S. JOHNSTON, Secretary.

P. S.—As this is an important meeting, all the members of the Board should make arrangements to be present, and to continue until the business is transacted. There will be a public meeting on Tuesday evening, in the interest of Foreign Missions, at which the Rev. Mr. Ammerman, a missionary of the Reformed Church of America, will be present. He has labored in Japan for several years, and his counsel will be of interest to the Board. All who intend to be present will please notify R. F. Kelker, Harrisburg, Pa., stating in what train they will arrive, so that places may be provided for their entertainment.

Brethren of the Board:—

We sincerely trust that you will feel the responsibility which rests upon you, and if not providentially prevented, will lay aside every thing else, and comply with this imperative call to duty. T. S. JOHNSTON, Secretary.

NOTICE.

A meeting of the Board of Missions of Pittsburgh Synod, will be held in Grace Church, Pittsburgh, on Thursday, March 15th, at 10½ A. M. It is earnestly hoped that all the members will be present. The Missionaries are requested to send their reports to Rev. F. B. Hahn, Greenville, Mercer Co., Pa., in time to be read at the meeting of the Board. SAMUEL Z. BEAM, President of Board.

PREMIUM TRACT No. 2.

"The Work of Missions in the Reformed Church in the U. S."

This Tract of four pages is now ready for distribution. It deserves a wide and liberal distribution throughout the whole Church. Pastors, Consistories, Sunday-schools, and Missionary societies will do well to order it in large quantities for general distribution.

It is to be had at the following rates:

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APPOINTMENT OF AGENT OF THE REFORMED CHURCH PUBLICATION BOARD.

Mr. Jacob Heyser of Chambersburg, Pa., has accepted the agency of the Board contemplated in the Plan of Life-Membership, subscriptions for THE MESSENGER, and will enter on his duties at the opening of the new year. He is also authorized to solicit contributions for the use of the Board, and to receive subscriptions for the different periodicals of the Board, and orders for the Book Department, and make collections of accounts due the Board, his receipt for the same being valid.

We hope Mr. Heyser will be received and welcomed by the Church, and meet with good succes so as to put our publication interest on a good footing. CHAS. G. FISHER,
Supt. Ref'd Ch. Pub. Board.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL HELPS FOR 1883.

Now is the time to make up orders for Sunday-schools Help for the coming year. "The Guardian," for teachers; "The Quarterly," for scholars; "Lesson Papers," advanced and primary; "The Child's Treasury," monthly and semi-monthly; and "Sunshine," are equal to any others of the kind, and at prices in keeping with their contents and appearance. The cheapest are not always the best. Specimen copies sent on application free of charge. We look for an increased demand for them all during the coming year. Pastors and superintendents will please give attention to this and see that their schools have *their own* Church publications in use.

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We have endeavored to improve the appearance of the almanac, and have it contain as usual an amount of matter that must prove interesting and instructive to every Church member. We have also added eight more pages—which gives more space to be filled with valuable reading matter. We have tried to make it truly a year book for the church. For this purpose we hope pastors and members will aid in its circulation, so that it may reach at least every family in the church. Send in your orders at once.

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Rev. CHARLES G. FISHER,

Superintendent and Treasurer

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FOR EASTER.

EASTER SERVICE ANNUAL,

Containing six pages of new and choice Carols for Easter, with specially prepared service of Scripture and song, published by Mrs. Emma Pitt, Baltimore, Md.

Superintendents and Teachers of Sunday-schools would do well to examine this Annual before making their Easter selections. Price, Five Cents—$4 per hundred.

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Prayer Book and Aids to Private Devotions, postpaid,	$ .30
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Miscellaneous.

"ONLY."

Only a trifle, yet broken
Are seals that were heavy and strong;
Only a word, lightly spoken,
Yet the soul bursteth forth into song.

Only a dew-drop, yet brighter
The verdure of meadow and lawn;
Only a sunbeam, yet lighter
And fairer the rosy-hued dawn.

Only a day, a mere glimmer
Of time, as it vanishes fast;
Only a day, growing dimmer
'Mid shadows and gloom of the past.

Only a day, yet forever
Its impulse shall with thee remain;
And the fruit of its labors shall never
Be given to ripen again.

Only a day—just the ripple
Of a leaf on life's stream flowing fast;
Yet bearing an argosy triple:
The future, the present, the past.

Time was, when it glittered before thee,
A part of futurity's dream,
And brighter the heavens were o'er thee
With hope-star's Utopian beam.

Time is, when it hovers around thee,
And lingers an hour by thy side;
While spells of fair promise that bound thee
Go drifting away with the tide.

Time will be, when dawneth the morrow,
When vanished for aye it will be;
A token of pleasure or sorrow
Its only remembrance for thee.

Only a day, nor yet ever
Its moments forgotten shall be,
Till bubbles of time-stream forever
Are whelmed in eternity's sea.

—*New York Tribune.*

Selections.

We only ask of God what we think will be best, but He gives us what He knows is best.

Hearts and heads united are a hundred-fold stronger than heads alone.—*Rev. W. H. Fish.*

One ounce of "it is written," gives more confidence than a ton of what we have felt.—*C. H. Spurgeon.*

The best way in the world to seem to be anything is really to be what we would seem to be.—*Tillotson.*

Faith is letting down our nets into the untransparent deeps at the Divine command, not knowing what we shall take.—*Faber.*

If any one speaks ill of thee, consider whether he has truth on his side; and if so, reform thyself, that his censures may not affect thee.

A good conscience is the palace of Christ; the temple of the Holy Ghost; the paradise of delight; the standing Sabbath of the saints.—*Augustine.*

The Lord takes up none but the forsaken; makes none healthy but the sick; gives sight to none but the blind; makes none alive but the dead; sanctifies none but sinners, and to all those He is precious.—*Luther.*

From Thy dwelling-place above,
From Thy Father's throne of love,
With Thy look of mercy bless
Those without Thee comfortless.

Now in glory Thou dost reign,
Won by all Thy toil and pain;
Thence the promised Spirit send,
While our prayers to Thee ascend.

—*Latin Hymn.*

The staff of a printing office were once surprised and delighted by a delicious perfume which suddenly filled every part of the room. Upon inquiry, it was found that one had passed through the office, who being constantly occupied with sweet spices and odorous drugs, became literally saturated with fragrance. The consequence was that wherever he went, he diffused a delicious sweetness, evoking such inquiries as: "Where has the man come from?" "What is the secret of this sweetness?" This illustrates the fragrance of the Christian as set forth in Psalm xlv. 8: "All thy garments smell of myrrh, and aloes and cassia."—*Times of Refreshing.*

Science and Art.

Paper is now made which closely resembles satin. Common paper is covered with size, and moist asbestos is sprinkled over it. The asbestos is dyed, and with aniline colors desirable effects are produced.

A Medusa has been modelled by Franklin Simmons at Rome. It represents her as a beautiful woman, watching with frightened look the change of her long hair into snakes. A copy has been ordered for London, and one, it is said, for this country.

Bricks of undried clay, mixed with straw and stamped with the cartouch of Pharaoh, are found near the fresh water canal around the mound of Mahuta, the scene of one of the battles recently fought in Egypt. The spot is supposed to be the site of ancient Rameses.

An interesting and important experiment has been going on for several years at the Abbey of the Tre Fontane, in the Roman Campagna, under the direction of the Trappist monks, its purpose being to determine whether or not the cultivation of the soil would result in purifying the poisonous atmosphere of the Campagna. The results thus far have been most satisfactory. At first the monks were obliged to live within the city walls during the bad season; but since the ground came under cultivation, and above all since the Eucalyptus globulus was planted on a large scale in the neighborhood, the Abbey has been inhabited all the year round, and the fevers from which its inmates still sometimes suffer are of a mild character, and rarely fatal; whereas at the outset something like a fourth of the little community succumbed every year. The health of the 280 convicts employed on the works is satisfactory, the average annual deaths from malaria not exceeding three. The Government has lately made a very large grant of land in perpetuity to the Trappists, who have already planted on it no fewer than 100,000 eucalyptus trees, which are all doing well.

Personal.

Bishop J. J. Glossbrenner, senior bishop of the United Brethren church, celebrated his golden wedding lately, at his home in Churchville, Augusta county, Va.

Lowfoo, the heroic Chinese Evangelist, who sold himself into slavery some years ago in order that he might go to Demarara to preach the Gospel there, has been so blessed that he has now a church of 200 persons, which sustain native missionaries who preach in out-stations.

Old Rowland Hill was both wise and witty when he replied to one who applied for admission to the sacrament at Surrey Chapel, stating that his religious feelings originated in a dream. "Well, that may be," said Mr. Hill, "but we'll tell you what we think of your dreams when we see how you walk, now you are awake.

It is related of Gustave Dore that many years ago, while on a tour in Switzerland, he lost his passport. Arriving at Lucerne, he asked to be allowed to speak to the mayor, to whom he gave his name. "You say that you are M. Gustave Dore," replied the mayor, "and I believe you; but," he added, producing a pencil and a piece of paper, "you can easily prove it." Dore looked around him, and perceived some women selling potatoes in the street. With a few touches he cleverly reproduced the homely scene, and, appending his name to the sketch, presented it to the mayor. "Your passport is perfectly in order," remarked the official; "but you must allow me to keep it as a souvenir, and to offer you in return one in the ordinary form."

The Rev. W. H. De Puy has resigned his position of Assistant Editor of the *Christian Advocate*, a place which he has occupied for eighteen years. He will leave the paper on April 1. Dr. De Puy had extended experience as a teacher in classical schools prior to 1850, when he became connected with the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary, filling the Chair of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy for four or five years. In 1855 he became pastor of Grace church, Buffalo, and filled every Methodist pulpit in the city, consecutively, for the full term. During four years of those pastorates he edited the Buffalo *Christian Advocate*. In 1865 he was appointed Assistant Editor of the New York *Christian Advocate*. He remained during the years of Dr. Curry's editorship and the four years of Dr. C. H. Fowler. Dr. De Puy's engagement in other literary pursuits rendered his work on the *Advocate* too burdensome.

Items of Interest.

"Pupils nowadays study so much that they don't know anything," says a member of the Massachusetts Board of Education.

There is in one of the Boston Courts a suit which hinges upon the validity of a law passed in 1683, when the Hub was a small provincial town. It pertains to the ownership of the land covered by party walls.

Rhode Island's reform school for boys has no locks on the doors and no bars on the windows. There is very rarely an attempt to escape, though the 150 inmates include many lads who have been considered incorrigible.

In three of the principal hospitals of Paris the Sisters of Mercy, numbering about 100, are at once to be replaced by ordinary male and female attendants. This step has been forced upon the Administration of Public Assistance by the Paris Municipal Council, who have made the continuation of their annual endowment of seventeen million francs conditional upon its execution.

It is announced that a "New Orleans man invented a device for opening iron shutters from the outside in case of fire. Briefly, it is an iron handle which, being pulled, explodes a cartridge on the inside of the shutter and at the same time draws the bolt. The cartridge is designed to prevent its being availed of by burglars" Maybe we don't quite understand this statement, but if the cartridge is designed to blow off the head of a burglar, we should decline to open the shutters if we were a fireman.

There are eleven States in which women can vote at the elections for School Directors. "Women for these offices," says Susan B. Anthony, "are particularly appropriate, since a large proportion of the school teachers are of the same sex. I find that they show much more tact than men, as, of course, they do in every position." In those eleven States the qualifications for voting are in nearly every instance similar to those of men. In Kentucky, however, a woman has to be a widow to poll, and in Michigan a taxpayer.

The report of the police matron at Brooklyn, N. Y., shows the wisdom of having a matron in the Police Department. 160 women and young girls have been committed to her charge during the past month. The matron visits the families of women in prison, supplies food and clothing to the needy, finds homes for those who would have to return to the streets, gives advice and encouragement, and makes the unfortunate committed to her care understand that they are not beyond the pale of human sympathy. The Police Justices approve of the work.

A concession has been granted by the Emperor of Austria for the construction of the Elevated Metropolitan Railway in Vienna. It is to connect all the railway termini with the principal streets and the suburbs. The work is to be completed within four years and the first part within two and a half years. The cost is estimated at $25.000,000. The whole material must be of Austrian manufacture, and will come from the Rothschilds' iron works at Wilkowitz and Teplitz. The chiefs excepted, only Austrian engineers are to be employed. The engines are probably to be worked by electricity.

A woman was the only passenger in a Montana stage except her baby, whom she wrapped in her fur cloak, leaving herself unprotected from the zero temperature. The driver saw that she was benumbed and would freeze to death unless roused to violent exercise. He dragged her from the coach and left her by the roadside. "Oh, my baby!" she cried. The driver cracked his whip. The stage flew over the snow with the woman running after. The race was kept up for nearly two miles, when the driver took the mother in again and wrapped his coat around her. He had warmed her blood and saved her life.

The Nihilist Executive Committee has addressed a memorandum to the Czar and the Russian Cabinet insisting upon the following constitutional reforms before the coronation at Moscow:—A representative assembly elected by universal suffrage; provincial self government by freely elected provincial boards; the free ownership of land by all classes of the people; freedom of conscience, of the press, of public meeting, and of association; the transformation of the standing military forces into a territorial army. The document threatens, if these reforms be not accelerated, to revert to the means of intimidation previously employed.

The Harvard College papers say that the students are in great peril from fire in the dormitories. These buildings are four and five stories high; in many the staircases are winding and narrow, and, with exceptions, they are unprovided with fire-escapes. The Harvard *Herald* thinks this condition of things very serious, and has solemnly warned the College authorities not to wait for disaster to teach them their duty. Others pronounce the danger wholly imaginary.

The decree regulating the liquor traffic in Russia, recently signed by the Emperor, is one of the most stringent character. There is to be only one liquor shop in a village, and where two or three villages are almost contiguous one shop must suffice for their combined inhabitants. The publican must be a native of the place, appointed and paid by the Common Council, and must sell food as well as liquor. If he allows any person to get drunk, he is liable not only to dismissal, but to fine and imprisonment. If any Russian village is reported to the authorities as addicted to drunkenness, the sale of liquor may be interdicted for as long a period as may seem necessary.

Mr. Leonard Hodges, who superintended the tree-planting along the St. Paul and Manitoba Road, and is also to have charge of the same work on the Northern Pacific, advises the planting of two parallel belts of young timber on the northern side of the tracks and one belt on the southern side. The white willow he has found to be the cheapest and hardiest tree for the purpose. A fence of this willow will grow to an average height of 12 feet in four years from the time of planting the cuttings. The soil, however, has to be prepared for planting by harrowing, and sometimes the prairie soil is so bad that two or three years must be spent in preparing it, but the result is thought to be worth the labor. Other hardy trees recommended for the purpose above mentioned are the box elder, the cottonwood, and the green ash.

The Burlington *Free Press* tells this story of the ways of a Vermont policeman:—Mr. Rufus Brown is a small farmer of a neighboring village, who, a short time ago ordered a griddle to be made in a foundry in Burlington. Through some mistake they made him an immense affair fifteen inches in diameter, two inches thick, and weighing sixty pounds. Being a simple-minded man he thought he must take it though it did not suit. And being on foot and unable to carry his purchase, he attached it to a piece of rope and dragged it through the streets. To carry a griddle in this way is not contrary to the law of Vermont; but nevertheless it attracted the attention of a watchful policeman, who at once arrested Mr. Brown for carrying off one of the city's hydrants. The poor man was kept in prison all day Sunday till at last his neighbors succeeded in explaining matters to the local Dogberrys, and Mr. Brown went triumphantly home with his sixty-pound griddle, where it is to be hoped he will enjoy his pancakes in peace.

Books and Periodicals.

PEERLESS PRAISE. Hymns and Music for Sabbath-Schools, by I. H. Kurzenknabe. Phila.: John Hood, 1018 Arch street. Price per hundred, $30; single copy, 35 cents.

This is another candidate for popular favor, and adds one to the many books of the kind. It contains a complete department of Elementary Instruction, or the Theory and Practice of Vocal Music. Most of the hymns and the music, though familiar, are not generally new, but the collection contains less trash than is often found in works offered to Sunday-schools, and that is a great merit.

HOUSE PLANS FOR EVERYBODY. For village and country residences, costing from $250 to $8000. Including full descriptions and estimates in detail of materials, labor and cost. With many practical suggestions and 175 illustrations. Fifth Edition, by S. B. Reed, architect. New York: Orange Judd Company, 751 Broadway. 1883.

We wish that we could get our people interested in books of this kind. The study of them would not only cultivate their taste, but help them in building and refitting homes. The money spent on unattractive houses is often like a waste, since much prettier and more convenient ones could be erected at much less cost. It is wonderful to see at what a small price neat and comfortable dwellings can be put up.

BREARLEY'S IMPROVED CHURCH PLANS. Designed, copyrighted and for sale only by W. H. Brearly, Detroit, Mich.

A series of plans all based upon a unique arrangement of rooms and varied to meet different scales of expenditure and seating capacity, have been prepared, and the particular set desired will be supplied on application, for $1.00 for examination only, to be followed by $5.00 additional for right to use, if adopted. There are seven of these plans published, with others in prospect. Those already given are for churches, to cost from $1500 to $16,000.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE. March 3rd, 1883. Contents: The Brothers Henry and Thomas Erskine, Westminster Review; A Singular Case, conclusion, Blackwood's Magazine; The Primacy of Archbishop Tait, British Quarterly Review; In Alsace, and Mr. Gladstone at Hawarden, Leisure Hour; A Farewell Appearance, Longman's Magazine; and choice selections of poetry.

For fifty-two numbers of sixty-four large pages each, or more than 3,300 pages a year, the subscription price ($8) is low; while for $10.50 the publishers offer to send any one of the American $4 monthlies or weeklies with the Living Age for a year, both postpaid. Littell & Co., Boston, are the publishers.

ST. NICHOLAS for March has a notable list of contributors. Archibald Forbes, the distinguished war correspondent of the London *Daily News*, furnishes a vividly interesting story of the Turco-Russian war, entitled "Where was Villiers?" which has the additional attraction of being illustrated by the well-known battle painter, W. H. Overend, of the *Illustrated London News*, himself a personal friend of both Forbes and Villiers. In the "Letter-box" is a pen-and-ink sketch of Mr. Forbes by Hubert Herkomer, from the portrait of him by that artist.——Rose Terry Cooke contributes a capital story of the Michigan fires of 1881, called "The Wrong Coat." There is a charming poem, "Ben Bruin," by Lucy Larcom, and one by Celia Thaxter.——Lucretia P. Hale gives us the latest particulars from the Peterkins, and tells how "Mrs. Peterkin Faints on the Great Pyramid."——Prof. William Elliot Griffis, the eminent orientalist, writes about Hokusai, a famous Japanese comic artist, and the paper is illustrated by reproductions of some of Hokusai's most popular pictures.——"That Sly Old Woodchuck" is a characteristic American boy story by W. O. Stoddard; and Miss Anna Eichberg, author of "The First Violin," has a delightful tale from the German of Leander.——E. S. Brooks finishes his four-part story of "The Field of the Cloth of Gold." Frank R. Stockton contributes a picturesque and thrilling instalment of "The Story of Viteau," and J. T. Trowbridge tells how the "Tinkham Brothers" took a firm stand in defense of their "Tide-Mill." The Frontispiece is an engraving of Greuze's celebrated painting of "The Broken Pitcher."——Besides the foregoing, there are stories, sketches, poems, and pictures by Charles Barnard, Sarah Winter Kellogg, Joel Stacy, Palmer Cox, Reginald B. Birch, H. P. Share, W. L. Sheppard, De Cost Smith, and many others.

The March WIDE AWAKE will be eagerly snapped up by boys of ambition and vim, in order to finish what the "Eighty-three Business Men" have to say about "Our Business Boys." Part II. of this important contribution to young folks' literature is entitled "Rocks of Danger," and is as vigorous and to the point as "Secrets of Success" in the February number. From this article the boys will probably turn to Fred Ober's Yucatan serial, "The Silver City," or to Rev. Irving L. Beman's story of "Evan Cogswell's Ice Fort," or to Edward Everett Hale's To-day Talk about the dead French statesman, Gambetta, or to "A Boy's Workshop," or to Prof. Sargent's "Health and Strength Paper," or to Mrs. Cheever's jolly out-of-doors story, "Camp Hamperford"—for all these contributions, interesting to everybody, are of peculiar interest to the boys. Act II. of the White Mountain Comedy, "More than They Bargained for," is as full of fun as it is of delicate characterization; and a fine humor too pervades "Old Caravan Days," and Mrs. Diaz's John Spicer Lecture on "Clothes." Mrs. L. T. Cragin has a good story, "Ellie's Holocaust;" Miss Harris concludes her history of a botanical experiment, "A Winter Garden;" The Next Neighbor writes, in "Anna Maria's Housekeeping," of "Two Teakettles;" there is in the Pleasant Author Series a delightful paper about Leigh Hunt, and withal, there are many beautiful illustrated poems: "Auctioning off the Baby," by M. E. B., "The Cat-tail Arrow," by Clara Doty Bates, "Ethel's Advice to the Baby," by Margaret Sidney, "That little Bonnet," by Miss Wilkins, also George Eliot's famous "O, may I join the Choir Invisible," which is accompanied by a most beautiful illustration from a French painting.

Only $2.50 a year. D. Lothrop & Co., Publishers, Boston, Mass.

The four weekly numbers of THE CONTINENT issued during February contain nearly one hundred illustrations, accompanying articles which cover a wide range of artistic and literary enterprize at home and abroad.——One of the newest and most promising departments of decorative art is treated by Hester M. Poole, in two lavishly illustrated papers entitled "Terra Cotta in Architecture," which has lately become so prominent.——"The Bettering-House and some other Charities," is the quaint title of an article by Louise Stockton, on the many benevolent institutions of Philadelphia, and certainly one would far rather find one's self an inmate of a "Bettering-House," as the kindly-hearted Friends of the Quaker City termed their generous establishment, than to be an "Alms-House" or a "Poor-House" pauper.——Ferd. C. Valentine, M.D., in an article on "Central American Women," presents certain singular aspects of social life in the Southern republics, which may tend to strip of its romance the story of life beneath the tropics, as it has been drawn by less veracious travelers.——Another descriptive article is "Kentucky's Birthplace," by Henry Cleveland Wood, of Harrodsburg, who, in a charming series of sketches, tells the story of those perilous early times when a few hardy pioneers, like Daniel Boone, penetrated the since famous Blue Grass region of Kentucky.——The richly illustrated poems of these numbers deserve especial mention as well for the artistic designs and engravings, as for the graceful verses which accompany them—"The Lesson of the Flowers," by C. C. Rhys, "A Valentine," by Mary Ainge de Vere, and a taking fancy, entitled "Cupid in Custody," by Mary A. Barr. Other poems are by George W. Bungay, Alice Wellington Rollins, Eben E. Rexford, and Philip Bourke Marston.——"Hot Plowshares," Judge Tourgee's serial story, reaches a striking crisis in the development of its plot. The other serial now running in these pages, "Belinda," by the ever popular and ever unaccountable Rhoda Broughton, still continues to pique public curiosity, as it will no doubt do to the very end.——Old soldiers will read with enjoyment, to which the seasoning of personal reminiscence will lend a spice, Edward Coggswell's "Recollections of Army Life, illustrated as it is by Edwin Forbes' realistic etchings of incidents sketched on the field during the four years of civil strife.——Short stories are contributed by Elizabeth P. Allan, Philip Bourke Marston and Lizzie W. Champney; essays by Louise Chandler Moulton and others.——In the different editorial departments, household affairs, literature, politics, current events, the drama and science are treated by different pens, while the concluding page of each number adds a farce, in one or more acts, of prose, poetry and illustration to the already charmingly varied contents of the magazine.

Married.

Feb. 22, 1883, at Blue Ball, Lancaster county, Pa., by Rev. D. W. Gerhard, Mr. Henry Lewis to Miss Susanna Goshen, both of East Earl Twp.

Feb. 13th, 1883, at the residence of Mrs. Shaver, near McGaheysville, Va., by Rev. B. R. Carnahan, Mr. J. W. Pence, of Larimer county, Col., to Miss Mary Bell Shaver, of Rockingham county, Va.

Feb. 15th, 1883, at the residence of Z. D. Gilmore, Esq., in McGaheysville, Va., by Rev. B. R. Carnahan, Mr. Howard C. England, formerly of Howard county, Md., to Miss Alice R. Rice, of McGaheysville, Rockingham county, Va.

In the Reformed Church, Alexandria, Pa., on Wednesday evening, Feb. 14, 1883, by Rev. M. H. Sangree, Mr. Antis Ellis to Miss Sue A. Leffard.

By Rev. D. N. Nittmar, Feb. 22, 1883, at the home of the bride, Charles E. Althoff, of Hanover, Pa., to Miss Laura Young, of the vicinity of Littlestown, Pa.

By the same, Feb. 15, 1883, at the bride's home, Ernest Kirchof, of the vicinity of Littlestown, Pa., to Miss Celia Sellers, of Littlestown, Pa.

February 13, 1883, by Rev. J. David Miller, Mr. Harry H. Black, of Huntingdon county, to Miss Ellie A. Steele, daughter of Mr. David Steele, of Bedford county, Pa.

Obituaries.

DIED.—In Canoe Valley, Huntingdon county, Pa., Feb. 13, 1883, Ruth Harnish, daughter of T. K. Harnish, aged 2 years, 2 months and 12 days.

DIED.—Near Pleasantville, Bedford county, Pa., Feb. 16, 1883, Miss Catherine Reininger, aged 21 years, 3 months and 16 days.

DIED.—At Shippensburg, Pa., on Feb. 14th, 1883, Mrs. Mary E., wife of J. Smith Basehore, aged 32 years, 6 months and 7 days.

Mrs. Basehore, together with her husband, was received into the Reformed Church, at Shippensburg, Pa., from the United Brethren Church on Dec. 17th, 1882. She was unwell at that time, and received the Holy Communion at her home. She was a Christian from her childhood. She was the most cheerful and patient sufferer I ever attended. On Feb. 12th, she again asked for and received the Holy Communion, and she was most happy as she communed. She did not *die*. She "fell asleep in Jesus," and awaits the resurrection. J. B. S.

DIED.—At Levansville, Pa., Feb. 11th, George Russel, son of George and Amanda Thompson, aged 3 years, 10 months and 27 days.

Russel was a child of more than ordinary intelligence and decision of character, and gave good promise of growing up into true and useful manhood. He was a great friend of his pastor; delighted in attending Sunday-school and divine services, and insisted on the presentation of his baby sister at the font for baptism. The Lord comfort his parents, to whom he is very dear. PASTOR.

DIED.—At Levansville, Pa., Feb. 25th, David Levan, at the age of 88 years, 9 months and 9 days.

He lived to a great age, was successful in business, died respected, and fell asleep in the faith of Christianity. The Lord be praised. PASTOR.

DIED.—In Conyngham township, Luzerne Co., Pa., of scarlet fever, Feb. 14th, 1883, Lloyd Archibald, youngest son of Elder J. W. and Martha A. Harter, aged 6 years and 3 days.

Lloyd was an interesting bright boy. His affectionate manner and winning ways endeared him to all who knew him. He was a robust and healthy child till two weeks ago, when he was stricken low with a malignant form of scarlet fever, which resulted in death. He suffered very intensely during the last stages of his illness, but bore it with the greatest patience. He died last Wednesday morning, loved and regretted by all who knew him.

His remains were interred in the family burying ground at Wapwallopen Church, on Friday morning. A large concourse of people were present to show their sympathies to the bereaved family. "It is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish." KAPPA.

DIED.—On the 9th of Feb., in Eden township, Seneca county, Ohio, Mrs. Leah Mary Barrick, wife of Wm. Barrick, aged 71 years, 11 months, 28 days.

At an early period of her life Mrs. Barrick was received into the Lutheran Church, in Frederick City, Md. After her marriage, she became a member of the Reformed Church at the Glade, in Frederick county, of which her husband was a member. Subsequently, upon her removal to the vicinity of Tiffin, O., she united with the First Reformed Church of that place, and continued a member up to the time of her death. She maintained a good Christian character throughout her life, notwithstanding the bodily afflictions she had to pass through. On account of her physical sufferings, she was often deprived of esteemed sanctuary privileges, which fact she greatly lamented, but of which she never complained. Her afflictions for the last two years confined her to the house, and most of this time to her sick couch; but she bore them with Christian resignation. Her end was peace. Her good qualities were attested by her neighbors and friends in the attention they paid her during her protracted illness, and their presence, in large numbers and from long distances, on the day of her funeral. In her death, her surviving husband has lost a faithful wife, her children an affectionate mother, and her neighbors a kind friend. May the Lord, who doeth all things well, sanctify this bereavement to their good. PASTOR.

DIED.—In Cantonsville, Baltimore county, Md., 19th of Feb., Mr. Samuel Bentz, in the 80th year of his age.

Mr. Bentz was widely known in years past as a leading merchant in Western Maryland. He was a man of great enterprise and of more than ordinary culture.

Acknowledgments.

St. Paul's Orphan Home, Butler, Pa.

(Thanksgiving and Christmas Offerings.)

From S S, Christ Ref Ch, Altoona, Pa, Rev John M Titzel, D D, $20 00. Do, Elk Lick, Pa, Rev C U Heilman, 38 24. Do, Bucyrus, O, Rev H Korthuer, 5 00. Do, Christ Ch, Orrville, O, Rev F Strassner, 5 75. Do, Zion's do, Bellevue, O, Rev C C Wooleslagel, 5 25. Do, Fairfield, O, Rev I T Hale, 4 00. Do, Bloomville, O, Rev S Shaw, 4 60. Do, Prospect, O, Rev P Ruhl, 5 00. Do, Farmersville, O, Rev I H Null, 5 00. Cong, do, Rev M F Frank, 7 00. Do, Millerstown, Pa, R W Barnhart, Esq, 6 58. Do, do, produce, by same, valued at 13 03. S S, do, do, 5 69. Do, Xenia, O, Rev S B Yockey, 4 59. Cong, do, do, 13 63. Do, Zwingli, Iowa, Rev F C Bauman, 5 00. Trinity Ch, York, Pa, I T Kopp, Esq, 11 63. A little S S girl on her 5th birthday, Ft Wayne, Ind, Rev C F Kriete, 5 00. Mr H C Muntz, 1 00. S S, Johnston's corner and Wadsworth, O, Rev S E Gross, 10 07. Do, Germantown, O, F H Schaeffer, 5 20. Do, Louisville, O, Josiah Brown, 10 00. Do, Highland, O, Rev R B Richard, 4 35. Wellersburg, Pa, Rev B Knepper, 5 00. Jefferson chg, Md, Rev N H Skyles: Jefferson, 9 30; St Math's, 2 36; Mt Zion, 3 00; Trinity chapel, 6 34. S S, St Paul's, Baltimore, Md, Rev M L Firor, 15 22. Do, St John's, Mt Pleasant, Pa, Rev S Z Beam, 4 00. Do, St Peter's, St Petersburg, Pa, do, 2 35. Do, Trinity, Boonsboro, Md, Rev S S Miller, 11 60, Do, Christ, Funkstown, Md, do, 6 25. Do, 1st Ref Ch (German), Akron, O, Rev I Dahlman, 26 80. Woman's Association Ref Ch, Sandusky, O, Rev M Trieber, 5 00. Mrs M Bier, by do, 1 00. M C Rossner, Dayton, O, 1 00. Lizzie Miller, Meadville, Pa, 70 cts. I P Wassell, Kaylor, Pa, 70 cts. Rev L Zenkle and family, Wis, 1 70. Joseph Weller, 5 00. Horras Ankeny, Alpha, O, 5 00. Laura and Freddie Loughner, 1 00. Cong and S S, Fairview, Pa, Rev I W Alspach, 31 25. Proceeds of Temperance Lecture, by Henry Leonard, at Butler, Pa, 9 00. Emlenton chg, Pa, Rev R C Bowling, 14 25. Miss Soc of Emanuel's Ref S S, Upper Sandusky, O, Rev E D Miller, 15 00.

B. WOLFF, Jr., Treasurer.
50 Wood St., Pittsburg.

Tohickon Classis.

Balance in Treasury, last report,	$102 27
Amt. received since "	197 70
	$299 97
Amt. paid since last report,	214 89
Balance in Treasury,	$85 08

I. G. GERHART, Treas. Tohickon Classis.
March 1st, 1883.

Bethany Orphans' Home.

From Young People's Association, Ref Ch, Cor of 7th and Spring Garden Sts, Phila, Miss M K Hunt, books. Trinity Ref cong, Columbus, Pa, Rev C S Gerharf, Christmas col, $8 00. Visitors from Hamburg, Pa, 1 25. J R Hilbush and family, Mahony, Northumberland county, Pa, 5 00. Ben Soc of 1st Ref Ch, Reading, Pa, Rev H Mosser, 50 00. Frieden's S S, Rev D E Schoedler, 2 10. Rev J G Dengler, Sellersville, Pa, 13 42. Jacob Kehm, Indian Creek, Pa, 25 00, Christ Ref S S, Rev Eli Keller, half-yearly col, 15 00. Jacob Zufall, Somerset county, Pa, 2 00. Mrs Jacob Zufall, do do, 1 10. Leinbach & Bro, Reading, Pa, clothing, 51 85.

D. B. ALBRIGHT, Supt.

Religious Intelligence.

At Home.

The pastor of the First Congregational Church at Peoria, Ill., the Rev. E. Frank Howe, will give lectures Friday afternoons and during Lent, the afternoon services being for children and those who cannot attend evening services. The subjects of the lectures are: What is it to be a Christian? Why be a Christian? How to become a Christian, etc.

The Unitarian Club of Boston, Mass., at their meeting discussed the subject of a building for the American Unitarian Association. It is decided to erect a building to cost $150,000 in addition to what may be expected from the Association. The building will not be begun until all funds necessary are subscribed. A committee of two in each church to solicit subscriptions will be appointed.

The twenty-seventh anniversary of the Maryland Sunday-school Union will be held, about the first of March, in the Natatorium, on Howard street, Baltimore. This hall is not only large but has very fine acoustic properties. These anniversaries have become so popular that but few churches in the city will hold the great masses of people who now attend. The music will be furnished by fifty picked singers from the celebrated oratorio, and the address will be delivered by Rev. Dr. Higbee, superintendent of public instruction in Pennsylvania. The Union starts out upon the new year with fresh zeal and with increased facilities for work.

The Rev. Thomas R. Bacon, of New Haven, recently preached a sermon in which he maintained the lawfulness of amusements such as cards, billiards, and the theatre. "The Christian Church," he said, "has fallen into the error of bearing false witness against its neighbors. Because some actors have not been of a righteous and pure life, the Church has stigmatized all actors as scoundrels and persons unworthy of being associated with. You may think that I am guilty of exaggeration; but I am not. He who makes his dwelling-place in Vallombrosa can have no beneficial influence over the Christian world. Christ was found among the people and mingled with publican and sinners, and was obedient unto the law. Is He retired into the mountain apart to pray, it was only for a little while that He might gain new strength to break the bread of life unto the people. The world was lying in wickedness and He must go down and meet it and bear its temptations."

The following are the bequests to benevolent objects contained in the will of the late Hon. Wm. E. Dodge: Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, $50,000; Presbyterian Board of Home Missions, $50,000; Am. Board of Commissioners for For'n Missions, $50,000; Education of young men for the ministry, $50,000; American Bible Society, $10,000; American Tract Society, $20,000; American Sunday-School Union, $10,000; National Temperance Society, $10,000; City Missions and Tract Society, $20,000; Presbyterian Board of Publication, $10,000; Lincoln University, $10,000; Children's Aid Society, $5,000; Howard University, $5,000; Atlanta University, $5,000; Hampden Institute, $5,000; Presbyterian Board of Aged Ministers, $5,000; American Seaman's Friend Society, $5,000; Internat'l Com. of Young Men's Christian Ass'n, $5,000; McAuley Mission, $5,000; Syrian Protestant College, $20,000, Metropolitan Museum of Art, $5,000; American Museum of Natural History, $5,000.

A deputation of clergymen from the McAll Mission, Paris, is expected to arrive in this country about March 1, and as the Philadelphia Auxiliary is the largest and most influential in America, the objective point of the deputation will be this city. M. Ruben Saillen has been appointed to fill the place made vacant by the death of the Rev. Geo. Theo. Dodds: he is a brilliant French preacher and scholar, and speaks English with considerably fluency. He will be accompanied by the Rev. Robert McAll, cousin of the Director of the McAll Mission. The ladies of the Philadelphia Auxiliary have received the cordial consent of a number of well-known clergymen here to act as a Committee of Reception to welcome the gentlemen upon their arrival. The ladies have also appointed R. C. Blackall, M. D., and Mr. W. H. Allen a Committee on Finance, who have kindly consented to act for the ladies in receiving any contributions or collections made during the visit of the deputation. The McAll Mission meets with great success. The Rue deRivoli station in Paris is open every night in the year, and has been for several years, and is full to the door.

Abroad.

Nine Christians in Prague have been granted a permit to form a "union" with authority to buy or build a house for "Bible lectures."

The Government daily paper in Tokio, Japan, consents to insert an advertisement of the Scriptures, which is regarded by the missionaries as an important concession.

The next English Church Congress will be held at Reading in October of 1883. The preliminary meeting was presided over by the Bishop of Oxford, and attended by many influential ministers.

The Lutheran Mission at Guntoor, India, has a boarding-school, in which the native boys hold a meeting three times a week to settle disputes, denounce evil habits, and correct all wrongs by open talk and prayer.

The question as to whether the Russian language shall be used in the Catholic churches of Poland is still unsettled. The Pope will proceed to fill vacant Polish sees and the condition of the Church will be gradually ameliorated.

The old slave market of Zanzibar, where formerly 30,000 slaves were sold annually, has been transformed into mission premises, with a church, mission-house and school, under the charge of the Universities Mission to Africa, started in 1859 at the suggestion of Dr. Livingstone.

Canon Farrar has adopted in his recently published work, the interpretation which in the vision of the Apocalypse, sees a reflection of the horrors of the Neronian persecution. That this is the only true solution of the enigmas of the book of "Revelation," is becoming a popular theory.

At a meeting held in the Jerusalem Chamber, Westminster, recently, the Prince of Wales presiding, a resolution was adopted to the effect that the money subscribed as a memorial to the late Archbishop of Canterbury, be expended for (1) a monument in Canterbury Cathedral, (2) memorials in Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's Cathedral, and (3) the completion of the restoration of Lambeth Palace chapel.

The population of Syria and Palistine is estimated at 2,076,321. Of these there are about 1,000,000 Moslems, 250,000 Nusairiyeh, 250,000 Maronites, 235,000 Ismailiyeh, gyspsies, etc., 20,000 Armenians, 15,000 Jacobites, 100,000 Druses, 6,311 Protestants, 60,000 Bedouin Arabs. The Protestants have 302 schools in Syria; these schools have 7,475 male and 7,149 female pupils. In Beirut there are 30 Protestant and 58 non-Protestant schools, with a total number of 11,187 pupils.

When Dr. Benson was appointed Bishop of Truro, he made in an address the following statement, which shows his true missionary spirit: "I shall lay it down as an axiom that, irrespective of every other work of our own, and of every work done by every other body in Christ's name, it is the final and ultimate duty of this Church to provide church worship and church instruction wherever there is a group of our people out of reach of them. It would be a futile qualification to istroduce the question of whether this need is subjectly felt by them, for, worked with that qualification, the Church would have tarried in the city of Jerusalem until now."

The Turkish authorities have rejected the nomination of the Archimandrite Photius to the Patriarchate of Jerusalem because his election was contrary to the rule existing *ab antiquo*, that the candidate for the Patriarchate must be at least forty years old, and have been a priest for at least ten years before his election. In consequence of this the Patriarchs of Constantinople and Alexandria have refused to recognize the choice of the Synod of Jerusalem, and the Russian Ambassador has announced that his Government and the Synod of Moscow would also withhold their recognition. The friends of Photius declare that he has been opposed by Gerasmius, titular Bishop of Beisan, and for some years the Jerusalem Convents' representative at Stamboul. On the other hand, the Greek journals are said to have disapproved in strong terms of the election of Photius.

A conference was held at Liverpool to make arrangements for the visit of Messrs. Moody and Sankey, which will take place from March 31 to April 14. Hengler's circus building has been hired, and everything is being done to secure united effort on the part of the ministers and churches of the city at the time of the meetings. Mr. Moody refuses to hold the meetings in any non-conformist chapels, as he has not enterance to the Episcopal churches, and that is the reason the present arrangements have been made. It is hoped that Messrs. Moody and Sankey will be induced to visit England in the autumn, making their first visit to Liverpool. The visit of the Evangelist to Birmingham. which closed Feb. 7, was attended with the usual success, Bingley Hall was crowded at every meeting. The invitation to return to the city had the support of several members of the Established Church.

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TIME TABLE.—NOVEMBER 6th, 1882.

Stations.	N. O. Exp.	Acc'm Train	Soth'n Mail	Phil. Exp.	Carl. Acc.*	Hb'g. Exp.
UP TRAINS.	P. M.	A. M.	A. M.	A. M.		P. M.
Leave Baltimore	11 20	.....	7 35	10 50	.....	5 35
" Philadelphia..	11 20	4 30	8 10	11 05	.....	5 40
	A. M.		A. M.	P. M.	P. M.	
" Harrisburg....	3 25	7 35	11 25	3 15	6 30	8 55
" Mechanicsb'g	3 48	8 04	11 46	3 41	7 00	9 25
" Carlisle	4 10	8 30	12 06	4 05	7 26	9 54
" Newville.....	4 33	8 55	12 27	4 30	.....	10 24
" Shippensburg	4 54	9 20	12 45	4 53	.....	10 49
Ar. Chambersb'g	5 17	9 45	1 05	5 19	.....	11 10
Lv. Chambersb'g	5 20	9 50	1 08	5 23	.....	P. M.
" Greencastle...	5 42	10 14	1 28	5 47	.....	
Ar. Hagerstown..	6 05	10 40	1 50	6 15	.....	A. M.
Lv. Hagerstown..	A. M.	10 45	2 00	6 20	.....	6 05
Ar. Martinsburg..	DAILY	11 35	3 40	7 10	.....	6 45
		A. M.	P. M.	P. M.		A. M.

* On Saturdays this train will leave Harrisburg at 5 30 P. M.

Stations.	Hb'g. Exp.	Sat. Acc'n	Mail Train.	Phila. Exp.	Mail Exp.	N. Y. Exp.
DOWN TRAINS.		P. M.	A. M.	A. M.	P. M.	
Lv. Martinsburg	.....	7 30	7 00	.....	3 00	DAILY
Ar. Hagerstown..	.....	8 20	7 50	.....	3 48	P. M.
Lv. Hagerstown..	.....	P. M.	7 55	11 50	3 55	9 05
" Greencastle...	.....	.....	8 23	12 17	4 23	9 26
Ar. Chambersb'g	A. M.	.....	8 50	12 40	4 50	9 46
Lv. Chambersb'g	4 30	*Carl.*	8 55	12 45	4 55	9 47
" Shippensburg	4 55	*Acc'n*	9 19	1 10	5 21	10 07
" Newville.....	5 18	A. M.	9 42	1 33	5 47	10 27
" Carlisle	5 42	7 30	10 08	2 00	6 15	10 47
" Mechanicsb'g	6 06	7 57	10 33	2 23	6 45	11 07
Ar. Harrisburg...	6 35	8 30	11 00	2 55	7 15	11 30
	A. M.	A. M.	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.
Ar. Philadelphia	10 20	.....	3 20	7 35		2 55
" Baltimore.....	10 20	.....	.....	5 20	.....	.....
	A. M.		P. M.	P. M.		A. M.

C. V. R. R.—SOUTH PENN BRANCH.

Mixed Train	Mail Train		Mail Train	Mixed Train
A. M.	P. M.		A. M.	P. M.
9 30	5 15	Lve.....Chambersburg.....Arr	8 45	4 40
9 55	5 30	" .....Marion..... "	8 30	4 15
11 20	6 12	" .....Mercersburg..... "	7 45	2 55
12 00	6 35	" .....London..... "	7 20	2 15
12 15	6 45	Arr.....Richmond ..... "	7 10	2 00
P. M.	P. M.		A. M.	P. M.

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General News.

Home.

The Philadelphia & Reading Railroad is out of the hands of the Receiver.

Hon. Thos. W. Palmer has been elected U. S. Senator from Michigan, in place of Mr. Ferry.

Altoona, Pa., is said to have suffered to the amount of $100,000 by the improper issue of Bonds.

Disastrous fires have occurred at Monongahela city, Pa., Milwaukee, Wis., Columbus, Kan., and Toronto, Ont.

The losses in the Ohio Valley are estimated at $8,048,000 independent of those sustained by the suspension of business.

Several thousand dollars worth of bonds were stolen by a sneak-thief from a desk of the Guarantee Trust Company on Friday last.

Gov. Cameron of Virginia, has been out with an armed force to suppress the illegal dredgers of the oyster beds belonging to that state.

Miss Mary Smith was fatally shot by Mr. Chas. Clark, at Heplead Station, L. I., on Monday, 26th inst., by the accidental discharge of a pistol.

Phares Cassiday died on Sunday, in Lebanon, Penna., at the alleged age of 102 years. He was formerly well known as a railroad contractor.

Colonel Harry Gilmore, a well-known Confederate officer during the late war, died in Baltimore Sunday night, of cancer in the face, at the age of 45.

The poles of the Mutual Union Telegraph Co., were cut down on Friday, in Chicago, by order of the Mayor, because the company had failed to put their wires underground as required by its charter.

Alexander H. Stephens, Governor of Georgia, and ex-Vice President of the Southern Confederacy, died in Atlanta on Sunday morning, at half-past three o'clock. He was in the 72d year of his age.

Gov. Pattison has sent a message to the Pennsylvania Legislature, calling attention to the charge that E. G. Patterson, employed by the State to collect testimony against the Standard Oil Company, was bribed to suppress the evidence.

The Bill extending the Charter of the Passenger Railway Companies on condition that fares are reduced to five cents, has been favorably reported in the Pennsylvania Seutate. Gov. Cleveland of New York, has vetoed the bill reducing the fares on the elevated roads of New York city.

Senator David Davis, in view of the exigency that might arise, resigned the presidency of the U. S. Senate on Saturday. Mr. Davis's term expires with this session, and if a successor had not been chosen, the nation would have been without an executive in case of the death of President Arthur. Mr. Edmunds of Vermont, was elected to Mr. Davis's place.

The Forty-seventh Congress expired by limitation on Sunday, 4th inst., at noon. The Tariff Bill was passed by the House by a vote of 152 yeas to 116 nays. It is hard to tell just what it is, as it has undergone many modifications, and all of its final provisions are not generally known. The following summary of the proceedings we take from the Philadelphia *Ledger*:—

All the General Appropriation bills were passed, but the River and Harbor bill failed in the Senate. It was reported without recommendation by the Committee on Commerce, and smothered to death by the adoption of a motion to have it printed and laid on the table "until to-morrow." The Senate and House remained in continuous session, excepting short recesses, from Saturday night until the hour of adjournment on Sunday. The proceedings in the House during the early morning hours were such as to justify a remark made by one of the members, apropos of an attempt to call up the Bonded Extension bill, that "too much whisky had already been taken out of bond."

The provisions of the Tax-Tariff bill will generally go into effect on July 1st. Exception, however, is made in regard to tariff duties on sugar, which will take effect on June 1st, and the reduction of the taxes on tobacco, snuff and cigars, and the reduction of the special license taxes which will go into effect on May 1st. It is provided in the bill that "all claims for drawback on unbroken packages of tobacco, snuff, cigars and cigarettes, held by manufacturers or dealers at that date, must be presented before July 1st."

Ten thousand six hundred and seventy bills and joint resolutions were introduced in the Forty-seventh Congress, 8018 in the House and 2652 in the Senate. During the session just closed, besides the regular annual appropriation bills, 163 bills and joint resolutions passed both Houses. The aggregate amount appropriated by the appropriation bills is $229,327,511. The aggregate of last year's appropriations was $219,-367,983.

A telegram from Pittsburg says that manufacturers who were interviewed yesterday in regard to the Tariff bill express satisfaction at the end of the struggle, although the bill is not satisfactory to all. The manufacturers of hoop iron and rods say "their business is killed. Pig iron, sheet iron and steel manufacture also claim to be greatly crippled. All agree that wages will have to be reduced, and some claim that a general adjustment of values will be necessary."

Foreign.

Quito has fallen into the hands of the insurgents of Ecuador.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 27.—The Minister of War has issued an order prohibiting all connection with the press of persons serving in the army or in its departments.

London, Feb. 27.—A despatch to the *Standard* from Rome says the answer of the Emperor William to the second letter of the Pope asks for the precise limits of the demands on the Vatican.

Rome, Feb. 27.—The Pope yesterday, receiving a deputation of clergymen from Mexico, praised the piety of that country, and said he felt sure that its rulers, in their own interest, would renew relations with the Vatican.

Paris, Feb. 27.—A memorial signed by many scientists and authors will be sent to President Grevy asking for the release from prison of Prince Krapotkine, the Anarchist, as they say he is the only person capable of making complete researches of Russian geography. Another reason for their request is the precarious condition of the Prince's health.

Berlin, March 1.—The historical-costume ball in honor of the silver wedding of the Crown Prince and Crown Princess was held last night in the old palace and was carried out with great pomp and splendor. Nearly all the German Princes and Princesses were present, representing different historical characters. The event was a great success.

A severe earthquake shock was felt at Aspinwall and Panama on February 5, as well as along the Panama Railroad. An enormous fissure has recently been discovered, according to the *Star and Herald*, running nearly two miles along the bank of the Chagres river. It varies in width from a few inches to three feet in many places. The bottom could not be seen. It was caused by the September earthquake. It lies almost in the axis of the proposed ditch. In Los Santos, on the Panama side, the tower of the church was shaken down on the 5th ult.

The English Government has made a demand for Sheridan supposed to be implicated in the Phœnix Park outrage. The *Pall Mall Gazette* commenting on the application for the extradition of Sheridan, says:—When Russia wished Europe to refuse an asylum to Nihilists, the Austrian *Fremdenblatt* declared that such a demand would give Europe a right to ask Russia to terminate the regime which produced Nihilism.

It would be unpleasant if the United States Government addressed a similar suggestion to Lord Granville, Foreign Secretary. If the demand for the extradition of Sheridan is based solely upon the fact of his belonging to the Irish Invincibles, it stands exactly on the same footing as if Russia had asked for the surrender of Prince Krapotkine. Not even success in securing the surrender of Sheridan would atone for the abandonment of the position with regard to extradition which we have hitherto maintained in the face of Europe. It would be even worse if the position were abandoned only to obtain a humiliating rebuff.

PHILADELPHIA MARKETS.

Wholesale Prices.

MONDAY, March 5, 1883.

COTTON was in slow demand but unchanged, closing dull on a basis of 10¼c. for middling uplands; 10⅛c. for low middling, and 9¼c. for good ordinary. Receipts—Gross, 2624 bales; net, 976 bales.

FLOUR.—We quote supers at $3.75@4; winter extras at $4.25@4.75; Pennsylvania family at $5.12½@5 25, exceptional fancy brands higher; Ohio and Indiana do. at $5.50@6.40, chiefly at $5 75@6.25; St. Louis and Southern Illinois do. at $5.50@6.40; Minnesota clears at $5.75@6.25; do. straight at $6.25@6.75; do. patent at $7@8, and winter patent at $6.25@7.40, chiefly $6.50@7, as to quality. Rye Flour was scarce and firm at $4@4.12½, as to quality.

CORN.—Sales reported comprised 2800 bushels rejected at 60@61c., with No. 3 quoted at 62@63c.; 2400 bushels steamer in elevator at 67½c.; 3600 bushels sail white do. at 68¾c.; 1500 bushels yellow afloat at 69½c.; car lots do. do. in elevator at 70c., closing at 70c. bid and 70½c. asked for sail mixed March; 15,000 bushels April early at 70c.; 25,000 bushels do. later at 70½c., closing at that asked and 70¼c. bid; 5000 bushels May early at 70c.; 20,000 bushels do. later at 70⅝c., closing at that, with 70½c. bid and 70¾c. asked for June.

OATS.—Sales of 1 car No. 3 white at 53½c.; 2 cars No. 2 do. at 55c.; 1 car extra No. 1 do. at 58c., with No. 2 mixed held at 53c; 20,000 bushels No. 2 white March at 53½c.; 10,000 bushels do. do. April at 53½c., closing at 53¾c. bid and 54c. asked May, and 53¾c. bid and 54½c. asked June.

RYE was in small supply and firm at 70c.

SUGARS.—Raw were firm on scarcity at 7@7⅛c. for fair to good refining Muscovados. Refined were quiet and unsettled, owing to the Senate action on the Tariff bill. Quotations were 9c. for granulated, 8⅞c. for crystal A, and 8⅝c. for standard A.

PROVISIONS.—We quote Mess Pork at $19.50@20; shoulders in salt, 8@8½c.; do. smoked, 8¾@9c.; pickled shoulders, 8¼@9c.; do. smoked, 10c.; pickled bellies, 11¾@12c.; smoked do. 12@12½c. Loose butchers' Lard, 11¼c.; prime steam do., $11.65@11.70; city refined, 12c.; Lard stearine, 11¾c.; beef hams, $21@23, as to brand; sweet pickled hams, 11¾@12½c. for heavy to light averages; smoked Hams, 13½@14c. Smoked Beef, 14@15c. Extra India Mess Beef, $26.50, f. o. b. City Family $16, and packet do. $15. City Tallow, 8@8½c., in hhds. Cake Tallow, 7½@8c.; country do., in barrels, 7¼@7⅝c.; Oleo Stearine, 9½c.

POULTRY.—We quote live Chickens at 15@16c., the latter for straight Hens; Turkeys, 16@18c., as to quality; live Ducks, near-by, 16@18c. do. Southern and Western, 14@16c.; live Geese, near-by, 12@14c.; do. Western, 12@13c.; dressed Chickens, near-by extra, 20@21c.; do. near-by medium, 17@19c.; do. Western extra, 18c.; do. prime, 16@17c.; do. scalded, 13@15c.; do. Ducks, near-by extra, 18@20c.; do. Western, 13@16c., as to quality; do. choice do., 18@19c.; do. Western extra, 19c.; good to prime Western, 17@18c.; fair, and scalded, 15@16c., as to quality.

BUTTER.—We quote Pennsylvania creamery extras at 37@38c.; do. firsts, 33@35c.; Western do. do. 35@36c; do. firsts, 28@30c.; June creamery, 18@20c.; Bradford county fresh tubs, 26@27c.; do. firsts, 23@25c.; New York State fresh, tubs 26@27c.; do. dairy extras, 23@25c.; Western dairy extras, 23@25c. Rolls, choice to fancy, 18@20c.—few, if any, here; do. fair to good, 13@15c.; common shipping grades, 10@12c. Prints, fancy, 38@40c.; do. firsts, 32@35c. do. seconds, 25@30c.

CHEESE.—We quote New York full cream choice at 14c.; do. fair to good, 12¾@13½c.; Ohio flat fine, 13½@13¾c.; do. fair to good, 12@12¾c.; Pennsylvania part skims, choice to fancy, 8½@9c.; do. fair to prime, 7@8c., and full skims, 3@6½c., as to quality.

EGGS.—Demand was very moderate on the open market, but a fair trade was done on 'Change at 20@20½c. for near-by extras. Western extras were quoted at 19½@20c.; limed, quiet, 17@18c.

PETROLEUM.—Manifests, 4939 barrels crude and 350 barrels refined. The market was dull and refined for export closed ⅛c. lower, at 7⅞@7¾c., as to test in barrels, and 10@10¾c. in cases, as to brand.

HAY AND STRAW.—We quote choice Western and York State Hay at $16; exceptional cars large bales at $17; ordinary and fair do. at $13@15. Rye Straw was dull at $12@12.50.

SEEDS.—Clover was in moderate supply and demand at steady prices; quoted at 13@14½c. ₱ lb. for ordinary to choice new, Timothy was dull and weak at $2.10@2.25 ₱ bushel, as to quality. Flax was neglected at $1.45 ₱ bushel for pure.

FEED.—Sales of 4 cars winter Bran at $20.75, part to arrive, and 40 tons white middlings on dock at $24, including bags.

Live Stock Prices.

The receipts for the week were: Beeves, 2900; sheep, 12,000; hogs, 2800. Previous week: Beeves, 2300; sheep, 8000; hogs, 3500.

BEEF CATTLE were active and prices advanced ¼c ₱ lb. At the close of the market all pens were sold out. Quotations: Extra, 6⅞@7¼c.; good, 6¼@6¾c.; medium, 6@6¼c.; common, 5¼@5¾c.; fat cows, 4@5½c.

MILCH COWS were dull at $30@70.

CITY DRESSED BEEVES were active and prices closed firm at 8¼@9¾c., while Western dressed were in demand at higher rates, closing at 8¼@9¼c. Sales last week: Thomas Bradley, 60 head Western dressed, 8¼@9c.; A. A. Jewett & Co., 350 head do., 8¼@9¼c.; R. Maynes & Co., 133 head city dressed, 8¼@9¼c.; Thomas Bradley, 118 head do, 8¾@9¼c.; A. A. Boswell, 96 head do., 8@9¼c.; C. S. Dengler, 78 head do., 8¾@9¼c.; Harlan & Bro., 80 head do., 8¼@9¼c.; H. G. Beckman, 56 head do., 8@9c.; J. F. Lowden, 53 head do., 8¼@9¼c. Dressed Sheep were active. Samuel Stewart sold 1017 head at 7@10c., and 89 head dressed lambs at 10@12¼c.

HOGS were inactive, as usual during the Lenten season, but prices remained unchanged. Quotations: Extra, 10¼@10¾c.; good, 9¾@10c.; medium, 9¼@9½c.

SHEEP were in demand and prices in sympathy with the Western markets advanced fully ¼c. per lb., and in some instances ¼c. improvement was paid. Lambs were also higher, while veal calves were in demand at better figures. Quotations: Extra wethers, 6¾@7c.; good. 6¼@6⅝c.; fair, 6@6¼c.; common, 5@5¾c.; culls, 4@4¼c.; lambs, 5@8c.; veal calves, 7@9½c.

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THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT of the *PENN MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY* OF PHILADELPHIA.

Net Assets, December 31, 1881		$7,314,655 03
RECEIPTS DURING THE YEAR:		
For Premiums	$1,358,136 62	
For Interest	460,737 30	
		1,818,873 92
		$9,133,528 95
DISBURSEMENTS.		
Claims by death	$468,755 04	
Matured Endowments	62,932 00	
Surrendered Policies	94,726 22	
Cash and Note Dividends	287,294 51	
Re-insurance	6,894 99	
Total paid Policy-holders	920,602 76	
Taxes and legal expenses	33,183 52	
Salaries, medical fees and office expenses	78,154 91	
Commissions to Agents, rents, etc.	115,907 40	
Agency and other expenses	65,555 99	
Advertising, printing, supplies,	17,636 01	
Fire Insurance, office furniture, etc	7,649 93	
		1,238,790 52
Net Assets, Jan. 1, 1883		$7,894,738 43
ASSETS.		
Philadelphia and other City Loans, Railroad and Water Bonds, Bank and other Stocks		$3,650,554 40
Mortgages and ground-rents		2,043,431 90
Premium notes secured by policies, etc.		665,876 78
Loans on collaterals, etc.		640,867 00
Home office and real estate bought to secure loans		829,778 53
Cash in Trust Companies and on hand		64,229 82
Net Ledger Assets as above		$7,894,738 43
Net deferred and unreported premiums		140,273 25
Interest due and accrued		56,430 44
Market value of stocks, etc., over cost		392,365 60
Gross Assets, Jan. 1, 1883		$8,483,807 72
LIABILITIES.		
Losses reported, but not due	$ 165,634 07	
Reserve at 4 per cent. to reinsure risks	6,854,849 00	
Surplus on life-rate Endowments, &c., and general surplus 4 per cent. basis	1,463,324 65	
		$8,483,807 72
Surplus at 4½ per cent. Pennsylvania Standard (estimated)		$1,805,462 85
Number of Policies in force		14,972
Amount of insurance in force		$38,194,522
Number of Policies issued in 1882		2,634
Amount Insured in 1882		$6,495,480

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¶ ¶ No. 2. 56 pieces of the same Black Silks that a few weeks ago were good at $1.35, open this month at One Dollar per yard.

¶ ¶ No. 3. Muslins have been lowered in price—almost all the makes.

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